FBIS DAILY REPORT

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REGIONAL PRESIDENTS TO MEET IN COSTA RICA

PA171949 San Jose Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] A meeting of the Central American presidents in Costa Rica will be held after the elections. The meeting was proposed by Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge in December. He suggested that the meeting be held in Costa Rica during the month of January. However, since the new Honduran president will not be sworn in until late January, the meeting has been postponed. The main topic to be discussed at this Central American summit is the formation of a common front to renegotiate the foreign debt and also to analyze the efforts being made by the Contadora Group.

LATIN AMERICAN PARLIAMENT CLOSES SESSION

PY192259 Paris AFP in Spanish 2232 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Text] Lima, 18 Jan (AFP) -- The Latin American Parliament today requested the continent's mobilization against foreign intervention in Central America, rejected any type of intervention, and called an extraordinary session for the defense of peace and democracy in Central America.

It also reaffirmed the urgency and the convenience of a meeting of the democratic presidents of Latin America to adopt a common attitude regarding the unjust international economic system, of which the foreign debt is the most harrowing expression.

These points were adopted at the conclusion here today of an expanded session of the parliament's executive board, where 19 of the hemisphere's countries' congresses were represented.

Argentine Senator Luis Agustin Leon, the parliament's president, said that the organization supports seeking a just, peaceful, and negotiated solution to the Central American problems, in accordance with the principles that guide the actions of the Contadora Group and the Lima Support Group.

It also expresses that it has followed with profound interest all the efforts that the democratic governments of Latin America are making to resolve the foreign debt situation in a coordinated way so as not to affect the most legitimate right to development and the welfare of our peoples.

The extraordinary session for the defense of peace and democracy in Central America will take place on 3 and 4 April 1986 in the Guatemala City. In case of intervention in Central America, the parliament has also authorized its president to urge governments and congresses to desist from such positions. [sentence as received]

The parliament's executive board approved the progress of democratization in Latin America, greeted the beginning of the process of overall democratization in Guatemala, and noted the assurance given by the Nicaraguan delegation regarding democracy in that country. It also renewed its repudiation of the authoritorian regimes that still exist in Chile, Suriname, and Haiti; expressing its solidarity with the popular struggles for freedom that are taking place in those countries.

The parlimment also condemned terrorism and violence in all its forms and ratified the need to accelerate the institutionalization of the Latin American Parliament in all its party and ideological trends.

In conclusion, it honored Victor Raul Haya de la Torre, the illustrious Peruvian who was the father of Latin American integration.

IDB ANNOUNCES AGRICULTURE GRANTS TO REGION

FL201900 Bridgetown CANA in English 2127 GMT 19 Jan 86

[Text] Bridgetown, Jan 19, CANA -- The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) has announced approval of U.S.9.7 million dollars in grant techinical cooperation to support the basic programme of the three international agricultural research centres in Latin America and the Caribbean during 1986.

In addition, the cooperation will partially finance a seminar to improve the strategies and the coordination of agricultural research between the centres and the national programmes of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

The three centres are the International Centre for the Improvement of Maize and Wheat (Cimmyt) in Mexico, the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) in Colombia and the International Potato Centre (CIP) in Peru.

Along with 10 other institutions in other parts of the world, the international centres conduct agricultural research designed to solve the problems of food, malnutrition and insufficient farm output by increasing the production of basic cereal grains, legumes, tubers, livestock products and other foods.

The total amount of the core budget of the three international centres for 1986 is estimated at U.S. 58.3 million dollars, of which the bank's technical cooperation will cover approximately 17 per cent.

GORBACHEV THANKS ALFONSIN FOR ARMS RACES CONCERNS

PY171631 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0106 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Jan (TELAM) -- CPSU Central Committee Secretary General Mikhail Gorbachev sent a message to President Raul Alfonsin stating that the Soviet Union greatly appreciates his efforts in helping attain acceptable solutions between states as well as concrete agreements to reduce the threat of a nuclear war, the arms race, especially the nuclear race, and to strengthen the prospects of peace for all countries under conditions of security and trust. The message was delivered by Soviet Ambassador Igor Kolosovsky during an audience granted by President Alfonsin this afternoon. In his message, Gorbachev recalls the message sent by Alfonsin and five other presidents to the Geneva summit. The message was addressed to him and to the U.S. President and deals with the subject of [words indistinct] nuclear tests. The Soviet Union has paid great attention to the suggestions made by Alfonsin regarding the cessation of nuclear tests on the planet. The message also gives a report on the new initiatives in the areas of weapons reduction and disarmament, and on the recent proposal to the United States.

ALFONSIN TO VISIT USSR, EXPAND EAST BLOC TIES

PA191353 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0829 GMT 19 Jan 86

[By Jesus Fonseca Escartin]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Jan (EFE) -- The Argentine Government will seek a new political and commercial strategy with regard to the eastern nations, through the visit of Foreign Minister Dante Caputo to Moscow on 27 January. Caputo will prepare a summit visit of President Raul Alfonsin to the USSR for mid-May -- the first visit by an Argentine chief of state to Moscow. Western diplomatic sources accredited in Buenos Aires consider that the current Argentine Government has decided that 1986 will be the year of definite incorporation of the socialist countries into its foreign policy. Argentine difficulties in placing its products in the traditional Western markets were a decisive factor in this rapprochement with the socialist area.

Meanwhile, the Argentine authorities wish to have a political rapprochement with the USSR. The commercial balance between Buenos Aires and Moscow at present is unfavorable to the USSR by $890 million annually. Alfonsin will also take advantage of this trip, noted for its search to reinforce diplomacy with the East and to strengthen ties with Hungary, one of the key countries of the Warsaw Pact.

It is expected that on a political level, this Argentine rapprochement with the USSR may result in the announcement of a call for nuclear disarmament.

On 17 January, Alfonsin received at the Casa Rosada, seat of the government, the roving Soviet ambassador, Igor Kolosovskiy, who brought him a message from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. A Soviet Embassy spokesman in the Argentine capital said that had informed President Alfonsin of "new initiatives proposed by Moscow concerning the arms limitation and disarmament, announced recently." It was also revealed that Gorbachev's message to the Argentine chief of state indicated that in the USSR "his efforts to reduce the threat of nuclear war are appreciated."

Argentina, Sweden, Mexico, Tanzania, Greece, and India have suggested a moratorium on nuclear tests for 12 months, which was immediately accepted in Moscow. This all indicates that Argentina wishes to consolidate a more intense link with the socialist bloc, within the opening to the world of its new democratic ways.

ALFONSIN ASSESSES ECONOMY IN VILLA REGINA SPEECH

PY172348 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1442 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Speech by President Raul Alfonsin in Villa Regina, Rio Negro Province, on the reopening of the Crybsa Enterprise, a manufacturer of heavy equipment -- live]

[Excerpts] Messrs governors of Rio Negro and Neuquen Provinces, Mr Mayor, Apostolic Nuncio, Mr President of Crybsa, Mrs Maria, ladies and gentlemen. The governor of Rio Negro has rightly stated that this ceremony is symbolic, not only because of the significance of the reopening of an enterprise, but also because in 1986 Argentina will begin growing along a course from which it will never veer until it reaches the place that it must occupy in the international community. [shouts, applause]

We are aware of the legitimacy of the demands for improving the workers' standard of living. Yet, if we do not realize that demands must be met within our possibilities, and if we insist on making such demands without taking into account the real possibilities of the economy, we will actually jeopardize the interests of the workers, whom we claim to defend. [applause] European labor leaders have pointed to this situation. It has been said in recent forums that only the nation's income, that is, the income generated with what we produce and sell, can be distributed. There have been demands for changes, so that the labor movement can continue to be the driving force of social progress, without ever being mistaken for agitations by the adventurers who conspire against democracy. [shouts, applause]

This is nothing new, because we have experienced it. We know it. Argentina has on several occasions experienced hardships. Today, we are facing our most serious and most difficult situation. We are confronting new problems that we must solve with our joint efforts. The situation was also difficult in 1974 and 1975, although it was not as difficult as the current situation. When General Peron was urging a strike and a social pact, he said those who conspired against the people's efforts and caused inflation merely to achieve nominal increases were cheap demagogues and enemies of the nation. [applause, people shout Alfonsin, Alfonsin] Unfortunately, General Peron died and his wife wound up giving in to pressures that challenged the concept of patriotism. This happened in June 1975. It is good for all of you to know about this and for the elderly people to recall it.

Applying a standard of 100 for the salaries prevailing in 1973, in May and June 1975, the index diminished, reaching 97. In June 1975, salary increases took place. In June 1975, the salary index climbed to 155. It seemed like everyone was over-optimistic. However, in September 1975, barely 2 months after the salary increase, the index reached 92, below the May figure. And in September 1985, we had one of the lowest salaries on record because attention was paid to demagoguery and a conspiracy was aimed at the workers themselves. [applause, shouts of Alfonsin, Alfonsin] The government has responded to this serious problem of the Argentine economy. The poor sector is our main concern. The government has provided an opportunity to end the longstanding practice of nominal salaries.

It is easy for businessmen who lack faith in the country to cause price increases, pass them along, and create the same situation or a worse situation the following months; thus, several steps are taken on the inflation ladder. Sometimes they come to us, asking for salary increases because they want to avoid the restrictions of a sound economy, and go on speculating within the framework of inflation.

By acceding to these requests, we would waste the efforts of many people, both men and women, especially the latter, who administer the meager salaries of their husbands. These women have done wonders during these 7 or 8 months as we have struggled to attain stability. We have continued to try to change, because I, like the Argentine people, cannot give up that effort. We have said that we do not want salary increases, but we want them to be real increases so that they will not soon be lost on high prices, thus unleashing inflation once again. We want increases so that the workers can earn the same salaries in real terms. Thus, we convinced the businessmen to grant a 5 percent salary increase without raising prices and to discuss another 5 percent increase with the labor sector in terms of productivity increases. Furthermore, we offered and granted increases in family allowances of 50 percent. We said that we were thus making possible a 12.5 percent increase for a normal size family.

It seems that none of this has been taken into account, because I have not yet heard of any labor union that has initiated the appropriate talks in order to obtain another 5 percent. On the contrary, the labor unions have initiated a campaign to besmirch the government. They have decided to bring the country to a halt, which I hope will at least be cause for mediation. The date 24 January does not matter much, but the 25th does matter. [shouts and applause]

We are accused of being insensitive to the demands of social justice. I can assure you that the economic adjustment that Argentina is going through is unique. I do not believe there is any other country where so much care has been exercised so that the efforts are equally distributed and so that the burden of the adjustment of the economy will not fall mainly on the working people. The situation is indeed unfortunate, the demands are indeed legitimate. But I can just ask you to see what we have tried to do in order to solve a problem that we did not create or help to create. We have set up the most important social program in Argentine history, which permits us to feed more than 5 million of our countrymen. [shouts, applause] This program was not limited to the National Food Program, but included the school lunch rooms for the purpose of eliminating malnutrition among children in the Argentine Republic. The program will also make it possible to offer medicines free of charge to millions of our countrymen. We are going to implement social insurance to take care of the people's health, which is the most previous asset of every man, woman, and child. [applause] Also, without precedent in Argentine history, we have set up the system of purchase in community, a system that is today benefiting millions of our countrymen. This permits the expression of solidarity and participation in an economy in crisis through an imaginative program. Of course, we know that more is necessary, but we have just begun a new march. Anyone, even the Argentine who is suffering the worst hardships, knows that this is not a government that is insensitive to the demands of the people. It is, rather, a government that is responsive to the people's needs, seeking to find legitimate solutions which are not those of easy demagoguery, as General Peron used to say. [shouts]

It has also been said that we are surrendering the country's economy on account of the foreign debt. This is obviously irresponsible and goes beyond frivolity. We have been advised that we should unilaterally declare a moratorium and use the funds we now pay as interest for projects, which would permit us to reactivate the economy. It is easy and simple to say this. Where do these geniuses in economics think they are? Where can a country that would do this be found? [crowd shouts] These geniuses are only agitating the Argentine people in order to dash their hopes and disturb their peace. We are proud of what we are doing inside and outside the country to affirm our national sovereignty, our liberation, and our independence. We have taken the initiative to call the countries of Latin America to join their voices to demand different treatment for the foreign debt problem, to demand political consideration for a problem that is not merely an economic and financial problem, but a problem that could entail hunger for our people.

We said we would never pay our debt at the expense of the hunger of our people by accepting conditions that would lead to that situation. [shouts, applause] We made our voice heard in Cartagena, Mar Del Plata, Santo Domingo, and Montevideo, and there is the answer that comes from the center of capitalism, suggesting the search for solutions along the lines we had proposed. We are absolutely convinced of the importance of our statements to that effect on the international stage. We made these statements on behalf of Argentine democracy. These statements were intended to remove the discrimination we suffer in foreign trade and to call for a new economic order to once and for all end injustice, which is at the root of wars.

We went out in the world to speak for peace because, despite all our internal difficulties, we knew that we were interpreting a true concern of the Argentine people, a true concern of His Holiness John Paul II, and a true concern of all people of good faith in the world. Thus we proclaimed the need for peace among men everywhere. We signed a document with six chiefs of state, and yesterday I received the personal envoy of the Secretary General of the Soviet Union, who handed me, as one of the signers of that document, the declaration and proposal the Government of the Soviet Union has made public. We can therefore confidently suppose that a magnificent possibility has thus opened to proceed with the struggle for peace.

This is the prestige of the Argentine democracy in the world, not the prestige of a government, not of a politician. This is the prestige of the Argentine people who are, in the eyes of a sometimes astonished world, emerging from stagnation of all sorts, in which we have lived. The people are accomplishing this through the state of law, the responsible prosecution of those who violated the law, and the independence of the branches of government — in this marvelous effort to create the Argentina, which, as I have said, we want to bequeath to our children.

Thus, let them not come to tarnish that prestige from inside. Who do they think they are? Making a tremendous effort, we have disrupted the IMF orthodox methods, imposing our own adjustment program, a program chosen by Argentines, voted on by the Argentines on 3 November. [applause, shouts: Dear Alfonsin, the people are with you!] It is our imagination. It is our intelligence. It is our effort. How will they come and tell us that someone else did it? It is our pride. It is our decision and our calling to build this Argentina -- a participatory, modern, brotherly country -- through cultivating efforts, overcoming the resignation with which we formerly accepted slogans, empty phrases, and rhetoric without substance.

It is necessary for everyone to understand that we have not yet overcome the risks facing Argentine democracy. The ultrarightist sectors, which profited under authoritarianism, have not yet been fully defeated in the country. There are sectors with fascist concepts which are interested in attacking the freedom enjoyed by the Argentine people, looking for the slightest possibility to muddy the water and impose their criteria and turn against democracy. No one in Argentina ignores this circumstance unless he is stupid. However, new winds are also blowing in the left-wing sectors. This forces us to think seriously about the need to defend this pluralist democracy, which is the Argentine people's great heritage within the framework of liberty.

The Communist Party of Argentina [PCA] has changed a strategy it has followed for several decades. For many years, the PCA spoke about the necessary stage of what it called a bourgeois democracy. The PCA defined a policy of alliances with businessmen of the national bourgeosie. Under military regimes, the PCA even talked about democracy's armed men. And now, the PCA has changed this strategy. All of a sudden, the PCA said it has made a mistake and it has been arrogant about understanding other revolutionary movements. And this is how the PCA is now seeking a type of alliance within the left with the Trotskyist sectors in the country to agitate, like the MAS [Movement Toward Socialism] for example, and hurt democracy because those Trotskyist sectors are not interested in democracy. They want to increase conflicts with the goal of seeking cannon fodder to serve their spurious goal of seizing power. [shouts, applause] And this is why 2 or 3 days ago in Buenos Aires, they provoked disorders and street violence like provocative adventurers.

Thus in the face of threats from extremists of both sides, this is the time for Argentines to decide what kind of society they want to live in and what kind of country they want. If they decide to support pluralistic democracy, human dignity, freedom, and a just and free society where everyone enjoys the same rights, they should also decide whether the people who share the same ideals should always be arguing and trying to gain political advantage as if they were enemies. The people do not want this confrontation. The Argentine people want accord among their democratic leaders, and we have to meet this aspiration. In no way can we allow party interests to prevail over the interests of the nation. The government cannot be expected to apologize every day because it won an election. The government won an election because that is what the people wanted. [Shouts, applause]

An electoral campaign should not be started 2 years in advance just to hinder government action. All of us must build a great nation, all of us must work for our country, for our people. It is absolutely essential that the Argentine people unite. We are convinced that it is absolutely necessary to make this effort. Let us continue on the same course, in search of solutions, asking for what we are entitled to receive, but also bearing in mind the answers that we can receive, bearing in mind that a salary increase must not cause the inflation and unemployment rates to go up.

All of us together will build the Argentina we want for our children. It is a task to be undertaken not only by the government but by all the media as well. Good news should not pass unnoticed while absurd and always-false criticism impairs our people's determination to move forward. We want the media to disseminate the news. We want everyone to say what he wants the way he wants. But we also want responsibility, which is essential for preserving this democracy, which is still weak. The important thing is not who will win the elections in 1987 or 1989. The important thing is that the Argentine people must continue to live in democracy. This is our responsibility. [shouts, applause]

OPPOSITION LEADERS COMMENT ON ALFONSIN ADDRESS

Peronist Deputy Concurs

PY201804 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 20 Jan 86 p 5

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- President Raul Alfonsin's controversial Villa Regina speech on Friday drew praise from unexpected quarters yesterday when Peronist deputy Herminio Iglesias broke his "strategic silence" to say the President "toed the true national line" and "identified the country's real enemies" in blasting the Communist Party and the Movement Towards Socialism (MAS). Iglesias also rejected the leftwing violence surrounding the visit of United States banker David Rockefeller, although he added the Argentine people is "disgusted" with the latter. The Buenos Aires party boss also said the recently promoted state-of-siege conspiracy suspects are innocent until proven guilty because "the courts have to serve for something."

Apart from Iglesias, support for the President's speech was largely restricted to his own Radical party. The capital branch of the party headed by Jorge Gomez and Enrique Nosiglia came out strongly in favour of it, unlike the National Committee which said on Saturday it will only state its support if "considered necessary," which committee chairman Edison Otero thought unlikely. Senator Otero also condemned leftwing violence.

62 Organizatons leader Lorenzo Miguel said on Saturday that the 62 would release a statement on the speech today or tomorrow. Miguel also said Alfonsin could not compare himself to former president Maria Estela Martinez de Peron when he spoke of unions "twisting his arm" since Mrs Peron did not set wages by decree, adding that free collective wage bargaining had to be restored. The metal workers' leader condemned the repression of the anti-Rockefeller demonstration last Monday.

Hebe de Bonafini, chairwoman of the Mothers of Plaza de Mayo, and the Trotskyist Workers' Party were two of the critical voices over the weekend with de Bonafini saying the government was shifting to the right. Alfonsin should have criticized the police at the anti-Rockefeller protest, she said.

Business Leader 'Discouraged'

PY201335 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2155 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jan (NA) -- Juan Carlos Lightowler Stahlberg, chairman of the Coordinating Agency for Mercantile Activities (CAME) admitted this afternoon that he was "confused and discouraged," after hearing President Alfonsin's speech. Stahlberg said that "when we expected to hear specific plans to find the way out of our current situation, we heard that the General Confederation of Labor is to blame for all the problems and that communists are devising a plot."

"I believe the president is wrong to think that those of us who disagree with his economic policies intend to destabilize him and his administration. The workers have the right to ask for better salaries, and it is obvious that the present salaries are insufficient. We businessmen have the right to expect economic reactivation, but that does not mean we are in favor of coups because democracy does not mean saying yes to everything, while companies go bankrupt and workers lose jobs," CAME's chairman said. Finally, he said that "to say that 1986 will be the year of reactivation, and to speak of vague measures for the end of the summer while the situation worsens daily, represents nothing new."

PCA Responds to Criticism

PY181437 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2320 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jan (NA) -- The Communist Party of Argentina [PCA] today reiterated that it will be "the first to defend democracy" and attributed the statements President Alfonsin made in his speech in Villa Regina to the fact that he "is the victim of a maneuver by the intelligence services, which want to distort the real objectives of the PCA." Fernando Nadra, the official PCA spokesman, has said that "whoever issues the order" will be responsible for any incidents that may occur during the strike called for 24 January, because, as he put it, "neither the PCA nor the CGT [General Confederation of Labor] sponsor violence."

During a press conference that was urgently called by the PCA Central Committee, Communist leader Oscar Arevalo said in connection with the criticism by President Raul Alfonsin that the fact that the presidential attack came simultaneously with the confirmation that the foreign debt will be repaid "leads to the conclusion that the government's position has shifted toward the right." Arevalo said that in his speech, Alfonsin "announced a stage that will be much more difficult for workers" and that the president leveled "false charges against communism, like Vernon Walters did."

For his part, Nadra said that today he asked Public Information Secretary Juan Randonjic for television time to answer the president's remarks about the PCA, adding that it would be "actually useful" to hold a dialogue with Radical leaders, with President Alfonsin, or with Interior Minister Troccoli. Nadra stressed that before leveling charges against the PCA, the government "should have called us and asked us." Nadra said Alfonsin's remarks about the PCA were wrong and unfair, "wrong because they are not true, and unfair because one cannot understand why he said such things." He added that the president was misled by "the information provided by the intelligence agencies, which frequently distort reports, particularly if people's sectors, the labor movement, or the PCA are involved."

Concerning the alliance with Trotskyite sectors, Nadra defended the creation of the People's Front and its integration into socialism, although he made it clear that "we do not support the extreme left and we will not support it while we are [words indistinct] violent, neither by tradition or practice."

"All this is a result of the visit by David Rockefeller, who did not come to greet us, but to demand that the foreign debt be repaid and to asphyxiate us," he added. He thus justified the people's expression of repudiation last Monday, and upheld the "right to protest in this democracy." After recalling the acts of violence, he recommended that the president learn "who gave the order to repress" and that he "stop worrying about the technical problems of Trotskyism." Nadra blamed the placing of the parked vehicle on an "intelligence agent" and said that "all of us should learn from Guglielminetti, who said he dressed as a worker and then joined demonstrators to arrest them later." [sentence as received] Nadra, who is the Central Committee political commission secretary, also charged that the newspapers LA PRENSA, LA NACION, and AMBITO FINANCIERO "have joined the campaign orchestrated by the intelligence agencies."

MILITARY OCCUPIES REFINERY TO PREVENT SABOTAGE

PY162004 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Excerpt] This is a report for Radio Panamericana from Santa Cruz. Military forces practically took over the Palma Sola refinery at 0330 today because of rumors that refinery workers were going to sabotage the plant. The workers have been demanding a salary increase for 2 weeks. At 1030 this morning, the departmental prefect delivered a document [words indistinct] to the press. The main part of the document says:

The departmental government reports that it has decided to exercise its constitutional rights in light of new attacks against elements and resources of the public service by a small group of pseudo-unionists who have been inciting workers to leave the Palma Sola refinery and obstruct the supply of fuel to the people of Santa Cruz, thus violating Article 156. In view of this emergency situation [words indistinct] against the interest of the community and a strategic state enterprise [words indistinct] and the rights of the workers [words indistinct] against labor legislation by pseudo-unionists, the departmental government has ordered the protection of the Palma Sola refinery by military forces. A few minutes ago the rank and file leaders [words indistinct] expressed their repudiation and rejection of the departmental government's decision, saying that the occupation of the refinery by the military was carried out by force. Another document using the same terms was released by [words indistinct]

BRAZIL SEEN AS FUTURE COCAINE PRODUCER

PY181826 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Text] A report by our correspondent in Cochabamba says that drug traffickers are demoralizing the Bolivian police. This has been stated by the Interior Ministry under secretary who is in Cochabamba.

[Begin relay from Cochabama] The immense power of drug traffickers is beginning to destabilize national institutions and discredit the Bolivian police, which continues its repression campaign, said Interior Ministry Under Secretary Guido Meruvia. He stated that the reports on abuses committed by the Leopards [specialized antidrug police] in the Chapare area have been spread with that intention. The official alleged that there are people who are responsible for manipulating the interests of drug trafficking and that, therefore, it is necessary to intensify the campaign against drug trafficking, especially the international connections. [end relay]

Brazil will become the foremost cocaine producer of the world, because it has thousands of hectares of natural coca plants. The report from Cochabamba also deals with this aspect:

[Begin relay] In a short time, Brazil will become the largest cocaine producer, because it has thousands of hectares of wild coca plants, according to the National Center for Struggle Against Dangerous Drugs. Colonel Guido Lopez has revealed that Brazilian Indians are manufacturing cocaine for export to European countries. According to the police officer, Brazil has many areas full of the famous (epagu) plant, a 6-meter high bush with a degree of purity similar to the coca leaves of Chapare.

Radio Panamericana has reported from Cochabamba. [end relay]

SARNEY TO ANNOUNCE CABINET CHANGES 14 FEB

PY202105 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 18 Jan 86 p 4

[Excerpt] Brasilia -- During an interview held in Brasilia yesterday, President Jose Sarney stated that he will reshuffle the cabinet "in one fell swoop" that the names of the ministers will be decided in late January, and that names will be announced on 14 February. The president, who shunned further discussion of the cabinet reshuffle, did not elaborate on the names or the number of ministers to be replaced.

PRESIDENT GRANTS PUBLIC SERVANTS PAY INCREASE

PY190054 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia in Portuguese 0900 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Excerpt] President Sarney has signed a decree granting a salary adjustment of 14.35 percent of the inflation rate to public servants, who at the beginning of the month had received a readjustment of 75 percent of the inflation rate.

This announcement was made by Administration Minister Aluizio Alves at the Planalto Palace. He said that public servants have had a real salary increase of 25 percent.

[Begin Alves recording] The 1985 inflation rate totaled 233 percent. During this period public servants had an increase of 258 percent, that is, they experienced a real salary increase of 25 percent. [end recording]

Alves said that a 14.35 percent readjustment will be paid beginning this month. This means that this sector has experienced a salary readjustment of 89.35 percent.

LIBYA SUSPENDS MILITARY DELEGATION'S VISIT

PY171800 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 16 Jan 86 p 5

[Text] The Libyan Government has decided to suspend the visit of a military delegation that was to come to Brazil in February or March on a familiarization tour of the arms manufacturing, aeronautical equipment, and defense materiel industries. The entire diplomatic mission, in which representatives of the Libyan Armed Forces were to participate, was to have discussed the overall relations between the two countries. This mission will now most likely be completely canceled, according to an announcement in Tripoli by the Libyan Foreign Ministry spokesman, Abaa Sahad. The same official said that a 70-member mission was to come to Brasilia "to discuss general trade ranging from frozen food to textiles and shoes."

Sahad recalled that the Libyan Armed Forces are interested in maintaining the possibilities of obtaining Brazilian-made defense equipment and are willing to invest nearly $300 million "over a 2-3 year period in their acquisition." This in practice is no more than the fulfillment of agreements that have already been signed, and therefore, no new negotiations will be necessary. Some of these agreements have never been canceled, even after the incident at the Belem and Manaus airports when Libyan cargo planes transporting weapons to Nicaragua were seized in 1983.

The companies participating in this program, which had previously been contacted by the Libyan diplomatic representation have been informed about the possible cancellation of the Libyan business-military mission.

These companies are Specialized Engineers, Inc [Brazil Aviation Aerospace Company], and other minor companies of the Vale do Paraiba and Rio Grande do Sul.

Sahad pointed out that this change is in no way a reflection on Brazil, but "a prudent move during a delicate political period when the visit of some officials to the Brazilian armament industry could be misinterpreted."

Army Fears Boycott Effects

PY190108 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2259 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Text] Brasilia, 18 Jan (TELAM-ANSA) -- An Army high command source, who refused to be identified, has said that if Brazil joins the U.S. boycott of the Libyan Government, the Brazilian ordinance industry will sustain incalculable damage.

Brazil, which is currently exporting military equipment like the "Cascavel" and "Urutu" armored cars together with surface-to-air missiles, is also negotiating the sale of Astros rocket-launchers (an artillery saturation weapon), "Osorio" tanks, and "Tucano" planes for military training.

According to the same source, the military has asked President Sarney to instruct Foreign Minister Olavo Setubal to hold talks but to avoid supporting the U.S. boycott.

Itamaraty sources have reported that after analyzing the issue with President Sarney, Foreign Minister Setubal gave assurances to the Libyan ambassador to Brazil that "the Brazilian Government will not take any measure against the Libyan Government."

It has also been said that no country in the hemisphere will support the U.S. President, because military analysts are convinced that the U.S.-Libyan political problem is abating.

PLANNING MINISTER REPORTS ON STATE OF ECONOMY

PY190240 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 Jan 86 p 28

[Text] Planning Minister Joao Sayad reported yesterday that the GDP in 1985 grew by about 8 percent, and predicted a lower growth rate for this year because the current drought, for instance, will cause a two-percent reduction of the agricultural production.

Minister Sayad yesterday afternoon presented information to President Jose Sarney regarding production, employment, unemployment, prices, and salaries in the Brazilian economy. Talking to the press at the Planalto Palace, Minister Sayad said that he favors the collective resignation of the Cabinet in order to give the president a free hand to reform it, but did not say whether he wanted to remain in the Cabinet.

The nationwide average rate of unemployment in November 1985 was 3.9 percent, the lowest since 1982 and 36 percent lower than the rate in November 1984. The lowest unemployment rate was registered in the state of Sao Paulo, with 3.6 percent, which represented a 12.2 percent reduction from the October rate. In Recife, Pernambuco State, the unemployment rate remained high, at 5.4 percent.

According to the data Minister Sayad presented to President Sarney, the largest reduction in the average unemployment rate, 51.5 percent, occurred in the civil construction sector. The minister observed that the unemployment reduction, although it follows the current good performance of the economy, has not benefited the most needy sectors, which are structurally excluded from the opportunities created by economic recovery.

Therefore, the planning minister told the president, people who are engaged in jobs earning no salary or less than minimum salary still represent 13.3 percent of the total labor force in the Sao Paulo metropolitan area, and 26.3 in the Salvador metropolitan area.

Industry

From January to November 1985, the Brazilian industrial production increased 8.1 percent. The mineral extraction industry grew 11.6 percent, and the manufacturing industry 7.9 percent. The durable consumer goods sector had a 22.6 percent expansion in November 1985 compared with the previous month. The capital goods sector had a 15.5 percent increase and the nondurable consumer goods sector 9.8 percent. According to the Planning Ministry, the expansion is based on the improvement in real salaries and on the demand for capital goods for industrial modernization. The overall industrial expansion in 1985 should be 8.2 percent, which represents a level of recovery prior to the 1981-83 recession.

Agricultural Harvest

Minister Sayad told the president that the current drought continues to worsen the prospects for this year's agricultural production. Based on data collected by the Brazilian Geographic and Statistics Institute through November 1985, the main crops in the central-south region and in Rondonia have been affected by reductions, especially the first-harvest beans (50 percent), cotton (11 percent), onions (3.5 percent), and corn (17 percent). Depending on weather conditions in the coming weeks, the drought impact on the planted areas could cause a two-percent decrease in total production.

Salaries

Sayad showed the president figures on people employed in industrial activities through October 1985. These figures proved that there has been a positive evolution of employment in the urban-industrial labor market: cumulative employment 5.5 percent; monthly average, 6.5 percent. According to the Planning Ministry, these figures prove the solid recovery of industrial employment. From a negative 0.7 percent in January, the employment rate grew to 5.5 percent in October.

Salaries had a 10 percent recovery in real terms through October 1985. There have been successive real increases in the average salary in the couple of months preceding October.

The average income of employed people in Sao Paulo increased from 1.36 million cruzeiros in October 1984 to 1.502 million cruzeiros in October 1985. The income of skilled labor-card-carrying workers went from 1.474 million to 1.615 million cruzeiros over the same 1-year period. In Rio de Janeiro, incomes are 200,000 cruzeiros less on the average.

U.S. CULTURAL INSTITUTE, RAIL STATION BOMBED

PY192120 Paris AFP in Spanish 1323 GMT 19 Jan 86

[Text] Vina del Mar, Chile, 19 Jan (AFP) -- Three attacks with explosives were carried out early this morning in Vina del Mar, 140 km west of Santiago. The attacks were against the Chilean-U.S. Cultural Institute, the railway station and the bus terminal, and seriously damaged windows. The police have reported that the explosions did not cause any casualties, but that very loud explosions were heard in several sectors of this elegant resort that is located on the Pacific coast and where approximately 60,000 Argentines are currently vacationing. No organization has claimed responsibility for these dynamite attacks that come 9 days after a vehicle was partially destroyed by an incendiary bomb in the rural locality of La Cruz, 50 km from Vina del Mar. In December 1985 the clandestine Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front, which promotes armed struggle against General Augusto Pinochet's regime, claimed reponsibility for three similar attacks, one of which caused the death of a guard.

INTERIOR MINISTER DISCUSSES KENNEDY'S VISIT

PY170234 Santiago Radio Nacional de Chile in Spanish 2200 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Excerpts] Interior Minister Ricardo Garcia remarked that Edward Kennedy's visit was informal and unofficial. He also said that the government granted him a courtesy visa and personal security. The minister made these statements after having met with the president of the republic. He informed the chief of state about the visit of the U.S. politician and about other matters related to his ministry.

[Garcia] "Because he is controversial, Kennedy caused conflict. I believe that this was noticeable. We have ensured Senator Kennedy's security. All appropriate measures were taken, which is well known. The senator left the country today without any personal problem, as far as I know."

Minister Garcia also said that Chile and the United States have many common interests but that Edward Kennedy is not among those working for these common interests.

[Garcia] "Mr Kennedy, as everyone knows, has made comments and proposals and taken attitudes which are not beneficial to the country."

Regarding the performance of the Carabineros, their mission was to suppress violent acts during Kennedy's visit, and Minister Garcia stated that they obeyed orders to ensure the security of the foreign visitor. He also pointed out that any demonstration, with the slightest amount of violence, is totally rejected by the government. On the other hand, the minister termed absolutely groundless statements by Gregory Gray, Kennedy's political adviser, who held the government responsible for the events near the airport when the U.S. senator arrived.

[Garcia] "These are statements based on nothing concrete or logical. The government is not connected to any demonstration by the public who may be against Senator Kennedy's image. The government does not stage, sponsor, or organize any demonstration of that kind and the accusation which Gregory Gray may have made is not correct." Concluding, Minister Garcia said that it is up to the Chileans to solve the problems of Chile without any foreign intervention.

GOVERNMENT OPTIMISTIC ON CONTADORA PEACE PROCESS

PA200248 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Text] Bogota -- Today, the Colombian Government stated that the negotiations held in Guatemala early this week and the new meetings of the Contadora Group give rise to hopes that the process of diplomatic negotiations will shortly lead to the establishment of the final basis for signing the Contadora Document for Peace and Cooperation in Central America.

This view was expressed in a communique issued today by the Foreign Ministry recapping the events that took place on Monday and Tuesday in Guatemala during the inauguration of Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo. The communique stated that the Central American and Contadora and Support Group foreign ministers had confirmed that 36 months after finalizing a general and comprehensive agreement in order to overcome the climate of hostility, curb the arms race, foreign intervention, and the policies of force. [sentence as heard]

FRG'S WARNKE VISITS, OFFERS ECONOMIC AID

PA180028 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0016 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Bogota, 16 Jan 86 (DPA) -- Impressed by what he saw, the FRG minister of economic cooperation, Juergen Warnke, announced today that the Bonn government will offer initial aid of 28 million Deutsche marks (approximately $8 million) for the Colombian victims of the tragedy of the Nevado del Ruiz "Arenas" Volcano, and noted that his country will participate in the reconstruction projects in the affected area.

This morning Warnke, who arrived in Bogota last night for a brief 20-hour visit to Colombia, visited several communities in Tolima Department, which suffered the greatest damage as a result of the eruption of the Nevado del Ruiz Volcano.

The minister traveled in a Colombian Air Force (FAC) helicopter accompanied by Juan Manuel Ospina, assistant director of the reconstruction fund (Resurgir): Rodrigo Villamizar, chief of regional and urban development of the National Planning Department, and Georg Schlaich, FRG ambassador to Colombia.

"To really know what happened in Armero and the other communities as result of the volcano eruption, one must come here and see it with his own eyes," Warnke told DPA, visibly impressed by what he saw in the stricken area.

"There is a large amount of money available to aid the victims and to help in the reconstruction of the affected areas, but we want this assistance to be channeled through the Colombian Government which knows what projects require funds for their execution," Warnke affirmed.

On returning to Bogota shortly after midday, the FRG minister of economic cooperation attended a luncheon held in his honor at the Government Palace by President Belisario Betancur. The luncheon was also attended by Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo; the presidential designate (vice president) and current Colombian ambassador to Washington Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo; director of "Resurgir", Pedro Gomez Barrero; and officials of the National Planning Department and the Ministries of Finance, Economic Development, and Public Health.

"What I admired most about the people during my visit to the disaster site was their willingness to continue living in those regions and to carry on," Warnke told President Betancur.

He said the FRG currently has many economic cooperation projects with Colombia, but he noted that "these projects can be expanded; that is why I decided to come personally and learn about the problems affecting this country."

He declared that the Catholic churches in the FRG and Colombia intend to jointly build a small town southwest of Mariquita (in Tolima Department), near Armero, which will have 50 houses for approximately 100 families. The town will be named "San Lorenzo" and its construction will be totally financed by the two churches.

At a press conference at the Eldorado Airport in Bogota shortly before returning to Bonn this evening, Warnke referred to the support reiterated by the EEC for the Contadora Group's peace efforts in Central America.

"Our support for Contadora is unrestricted," Warnke affirmed, and added: "We must not forget that the four Contadora member countries (Mexico, Colombia, Panama, and Venezuela) and the Support Group member-countries (Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil, and Peru) represent almost 90 percent of the population in Latin America. That is why their persuasion force can certainly avert a war in Central America."

He said that the FRG Government will continue to support the democratic opening in Latin America, and pointed out that his country is determined to maintain a closer commercial exchange relationship with the countries in this part of the world.

"We are making efforts to encourage large and small German firms to invest and commit themselves to development programs in Latin America," he stated.

The FRG minister left for Bonn via Madrid at 1820.

PAREJO ON POLITICIANS FINANCED BY DRUG MONEY

PA190249 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1659 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Text] Bogota, 18 Jan (EFE) -- Today, Colombian Justice Minister Enrique Parejo Gonzalez denounced the financing of political campaigns with money from drug trafficking, and added that "not all Colombian authorities are honestly fighting the Mafia."

In a statement to "Radio Cadena Nacional," Parejo appealed to departmental officials to investigate and publicly denounce the aspiring candidates to Congress, departmental assemblies, and municipal councils who are involved with the so-called "hot money."

"These people [drug traffickers] have begun to buy up properties and to talk to local politicians to participate with hot money in the parliamentary lists; however, we trust in the uprightness of the votes of honest people," the justice minister said.

Admitting that the tolerance of some government officials allowed the "rebirth of this evil" in some parts of the country, Parejo warned that Colombia "cannot return to the era of darkness during which my unfortunate predecessor was killed." Rodrigo Lara Bonilla was killed on 30 April 1984.

The official added that his office has received many complaints of politicians being financed with funds from drug trafficking in the Bolivar and Guajira Departments located on the Atlantic coast, in Antioquia Department located in the northeast, in Caqueta, and in the Amazon commissariats located in the south of the country. The elections for congress, assemblies, and councils will take place on 9 March.

PEACE COMMISSION PRESIDENT ON MEETING WITH FARC

PA201527 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Interview with National Peace Commission President Dr. John Agudelo Rios by correspondent Favio Callejas Ramirez in Bogota -- live]

[Text] [Callejas] Good afternoon. This week, the National Peace Commission went to La Uribe, in Meta, in order to reach an agreement on new talks aimed at extending the truce between the government and the Patriotic Union [UP]. At this moment, we are talking with National Peace Commission President Dr. John Agudelo Rios. Good afternoon, Dr. Agudelo, greetings from radio and television "Supernews" newscast. Following your talks with the UP, what is the atmosphere like for the upcoming elections?

[Agudelo] For 2 days, we talked at length with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC] about extending the La Uribe agreements. During this meeting, we talked about all the problems affecting the process so as to find the changes needed to achieve satisfactory compliance with the truce. We truly found a good atmosphere and saw that the FARC is greatly committed not only to participating in the elections through the UP, but also to helping in carrying out the process as orderly and smoothly as possible.

[Callejas] Excuse me, Dr. Agudelo, has President Belisario Betancur received the document you analyzed with the UP, including conclusions and vital issues?

[Agudelo] No. We did not bring any document to La Uribe yet. We merely brought the topics of discussions that we deemed to be basic for extending the truce. The discussions were broad but without suggesting any written document. In fact, this meeting will serve as a basis for drafting a written document. However, before submitting the document to the FARC, it has to be submitted to the president. We are mediators We act [word indistinct]. But, we have already more or less analyzed all the issues that could be deemed vital for the peace process to continue on the right track and for the public to abandon its fears about this process.

[Callejas] Dr. Agudelo, how about the other armed groups with which the government wanted to talk? Did those groups want to join the democratic path, too?

[Agudelo] The fact is that at this point we have lost contact with groups that have not participated or have withdrawn from the peace process. However, I feel that the country is forcing those groups [words indistinct] because all Colombians reject violence. It is my very personal opinion that violence has no future in Colombia...

[Callejas, interrupting] To conclude Dr...

[Agudelo, interrupting] [Word indistinct] will impose peace in the end.

[Callejas] Dr. Agudelo, to conclude, how do you feel, or what are your views regarding the government's interest in calling on the reserves to reinforce or [words indistinct] in places where elections will take place?

[Agudelo] I have no views on this matter because this matter is outside my purview. However, I believe that the government ought to employ the better suited and less controversial merchanisms that would ensure that the elections take place -- as they will -- in a cordial atmosphere. I do not see why these elections will not be like previous ones, that is, a truly civic event and [words indistinct].

EDITORIAL CRITICIZES 'IRREGULARS', KENNEDY

PY171252 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 15 Jan 86 p 7

[Editorial: "The Agents of Ignominy"]

[Text] All local media have freely reported the list of "irregulars" who met with U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy, the coward of Chappaquiddick, in Buenos Aires. They are members of a base alliance, a populist front that operates here in Asuncion without any type of restriction and that appears to follow the most cherished traditions of the legionnaires [from the so-called "Paraguayan Legion," which fought against Paraguayan forces during the 1864-70 triple alliance war], because it has branches abroad, particularly in Buenos Aires, the century-old legion's headquarters.

Each of the persons whose name appears on the list is normally pursuing his political activities in Paraguay, enjoying the freedom to travel abroad, make statements and take stands. Nothing curtails their human rights and civil liberties, which they exercise at their discretion. Thus, it is quite difficult to figure out what they will complain about to the man who let his secretary drown to conceal fact that he spent "a weekend" with her.

Anyway, it is more important to identify those legionnaires who will prostrate themselves before the foreign politician, whom they consider to be strong enough to exert pressure on Paraguay, in an attempt to once and for all ban our country from international development cooperation programs, as has already been requested by Domingo Laino and Carmen de Lara Castro. These legionnaires also want to create tension and friction in Paraguayan foreign relations, both in its bilateral relations with the United States and at the OAS and the United Nations. Unable to succeed in the past, the dream that now drives the opposition is the "liberation crusade" of the Bostonian oligarch.

The first name on the list is Arnaldo Valdovinos, of the Febrerista Revolutionary Party [PRF], the ineffable "Fruit Cake Minister" of 1946. His adventures at the Punta del Este casinos with money provided by Castroist organizations are widely known. If he does not come to our country, it is because he knows that his fellow party members consider him to be a member of the "obsolete gerontocracy" and that no one will give him the time of day. Next on the list is "authentic radical" Hermes Rafael Saguier, the brother of Abdon and, therefore, cut from the some cloth. Rafael Saguier is well-known for his persistent attempts to approach a relative, an official of Alfonsin's Radical administration who holds the post of Buenos Aires mayor. This qualification has surely granted him access to the grotesque show to be staged by those who will condemn the "dictatorship" and the "oppression," while pretending to be exiles. However, they will certainly not say that they have been sent by irregular minorities headquartered in Asuncion, where they operate freely, hold their conventions, and invite and receive politicians from Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Venezuela, Spain, the FRG, Sweden, etc. Neither will they say that they frequently travel from Asuncion to Buenos Aires and vice versa, as can be easily proven.

The third name on the list is that of Miguel Angel Gonzalez Casabianca, the dull and sordid representative of a residual subsplinter of the "Mopoco," [Colorado Popular Movement], which has been repudiated by the majority of those expelled from the Colorado Party. This man, whose name came last on the list of alternate candidates for the Chamber of Deputies in 1958, who in 1959 joined the noisy destabilizing attempt of May, betting on the promise to "improve his position" or to return 6 months later to hold an important government post, still has the guts to follow Valdovinos and Saguier and to invoke (even if by fraud) the Colorado Party. The Colorado Party is the most powerful Paraguayan political group because it enjoys the largest civic support.

It has historically played the most important role in everything that has been done to support the principles of nonintervention and self-determination of the peoples, which have been the foundations of the Paraguayan nationalist doctrine since the days of Francia, Carlos Antonio Lopez, the Iron Marshal [Lopez, Paraguayan national hero], and General Caballero [known as "the Centaur of Ybycui," founder of the Colorado Party].

Christian Democratic Party representative Cerferino Encina comes last on the list of people who will never again wash their hands after having shaken that of Kennedy, as an expression of gratitude for the ignominious pittance that the conflictive and controversial U.S. politician promises them. A nobody of whom we have nothing either good or bad to say, Encina is not Alfredo Rojas Leon, Romulo T. Perina, or Luis Manuel Andrada Nogues, who cannot be expected to have been left out of this opportunity. This shows that there are differences that some would prefer not to mention; for example, that the entire irregular opposition is divided and that not everyone agrees with the idea of flattering the Massachusetts senator and paying homage to him with typically colonial demands (demands by colonists to people of the metropolis). The differences mark two antagonistic sectors, namely, those who "prefer Asuncion" and those who "prefer Buenos Aires." In the "Authentic Radical" faction, the struggle is between the "portenos" [Buenos Aires residents] and the "locals." The radical sector of the Christian Democratic Party is led by Luis Alfonso Resck, a psychopath who will undoubtedly manipulate the puppet [not further identified], unless Encina proves otherwise. The PRF, the "delegation" headed by the discredited and demagogic Vladovinos also reflects the serious disagreements within the party. Finally, as for the dull "Mopoco" representative, it is enough to recall the categorical condemnation of the abominable alliance between this subsplinter group and the populist front.

It is not necessary to add anything else to have a clear idea of the level and representativity of the agents of the irregular opposition, who will grovel and lick the senator's shoes so he will listen to their defamations and advertise them within his area of influence in the U.S. Congress. They are nothing but resentful politicians who, driven by their ambition and their moral insignificance, have found nothing better than ignominy for overcoming their frustration and emerging from obscurity, even if only in the deathly ghostly glow of delusion.

COMMENTARY VIEWS FOREIGN 'INTERVENTION'

PY180309 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 17 Jan 86 p 24

[Main commentary by Poncho Pyta: "Sepoys and Sepoyism"]

[Text] Fifty years ago the influence exerted by dominant U.S. sectors over several countries gave rise to the categorical and derogatory term "banana republic" to refer to the nations totally overpowered economically and politically by the U.S. Administration. Let us not relate in detail the intervention in those years by the United States, which is the leading country in the Western world, in those countries where the United States reached the point of simply applying the "big stick" policy through direct and insolent military intervention. During a trip we made many years ago to the Caribbean, we realized that the luck of the ruler of the country we were visiting depended on his relations with the northern brother, the big brother. My acquaintances there explained to me that "the popularity of any politician here is measured not by popular consensus or by his power to attract people but by his relation with the U.S. ambassador."

Paraguay once suffered a brutal exterminating war, a painful genocide, for maintaining its loyalty to a brother country to guarantee the balance of power in the River Plate Basin. Our country then sunk into a self-made grave for defending itself and its identity as a free and sovereign country before giving in to the miserable circumstances created by some big shots, who schemed to distribute land and influence without consulting the affected peoples or tradition. There has always been in our country a deep sense of national dignity, and if we engaged in military adventures or in bloody confrontations so many times, we did so following our own impulses. We did not request the intervention of a foreign country in our own Paraguayan disagreements except in 1904, during a coup, which was a treason against democracy and which was planned from abroad. Times seem to have changed now however. Since the existence of the "National Accord" its leaders and big shots are continuously bothering the U.S. Embassy for attention. They even go further: They go abroad and beg for protection, influence, and even money, probably saying bad things about Paraguay to get our development loans discontinued. They have no shame or scruples. They hang about the corridors of power just to ask for foreign intervention in our domestic matters. The voluntary mental sepoyism of these bad, self-styled, "democrats" is a sign of the times in which we are living. Even this has changed, and for the worse, of course. We are dragging our lost dignity on the ground, begging for protection and assistance in matters that are only of Paraguayan concern.

PLRA VICE PRESIDENT TURNED BACK AT BORDER

PY171601 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 17 Jan 86 p 9

[Text] In a communique, the Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA] executive board "informs the citizenry that on 23 December 1985 PLRA first vice president Dr Domingo Laino again attempted to return to the country with the goal of returning to the national political scene and, if necessary, submitting himself to the courts. He made this new attempt to return to the country based on the constitutional rights in effect."

In addition the PLRA communique adds, among other things, that "Dr Laino this morning arrived at the Puerto Falcon customshouse where he attempted to fulfill the necessary bureaucratic formalities to enter our country and was again rejected by customs authorities, who were 'acting on orders from above.'"

PRESIDENT GARCIA MEETS WITH CUBA'S BRAVO

PY171541 Paris AFP in Spanish 0427 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Lima, 16 Jan (AFP) -- President Alan Garcia today met at Government House with Flavio Bravo, president of the Cuban National Assembly of the People's Government. Bravo is in Lima to participate in the meeting of the Latin American Parliament, of which Cuba will today become a member.

At the end of the meeting, the Cuban legislator said that he and the president had talked about several topics. Answering a reporter's question, he said that the disagreement that existed between Cuba and Peru regarding the foreign debt is now a thing of the past and that the correct thing to do now is to look to the future.

He also said that he had expressed the greetings of the Cuban Government and Assembly to Garcia and that they had not discussed the invitation to visit Havana that President Fidel Castro made to his Peruvian colleague, but the invitation stands.

CUBA TO PURCHASE 6,000 TONS OF FISH MEAL

PY181326 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Text] Fisheries Minister Jose Palomino has reported that within the framework of an agreement that has already been signed with Cuba, Peru will sell that Caribbean country 6,000 tons of fish meal. The minister noted that Pescaperu [State fish meal and fish oil production agency] will be able to meet the Cuban fish meal demand.

POLICE RAID ARSENAL, THWART TERRORIST ATTACK

PY182117 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1623 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Lima, 17 Jan (EFE) -- Peruvian police have found an arsenal of explosives and prevented the destruction of two high-tension pylons in Lima. They believe the Maoist organization Shining Path had been preparing terrorist attacks to celebrate Lima's 451st anniversary tomorrow.

According to reports here today, the police raided a recruiting and training "school" of the Shining Path, a "clinic", and an arsenal on the outskirts of Lima.

The police also prevented the destruction of two high-tension pylons and a medical post. The reports, however, did not indicate the types of weapons and explosives found or whether there were any arrests.

According to press reports, the police found dynamite, the explosive usually used by the Shining Path members, as well as homemade bombs called "Russian cheese." According to the same sources, five terrorists were detained.

A sack with 30 dynamite sticks was found in the "clinic" and a body, found 2 days ago in a house in Los Cipreses housing unit was identified as that of Genoveva Mercedes Chavez, 28, of Ayacucho, possibly a member of Shining Path.

At the same location, police found seven people with gunshot wounds. It was learned that the house belongs to a professor at San Marco University in Lima, who still could not be found.

According to the Interior Ministry, subversive propaganda, red flags, and surgical material were also found. For this reason, the place is believed to have been a terrorist "clinic."

Meanwhile, members of the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement have raided five radio stations in Lima and one in Chimbote, a port north of Lima, and broadcast a series of subversive messages.

Meanwhile, Lima is preparing to celebrate the 451st anniversary of its foundation by the Spaniard Francisco Pizarro, with a traditional Te Deum, and a series of other ceremonies, such as the placing of a wreath at Pizarro's monument.

TUPAC AMARU STAGES ATTACKS IN LIMA, CHIMBOTE

PY201511 Paris AFP in Spanish 1426 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] Lima, 20 Jan (AFP) -- Police have reported that at least five bomb attacks were carried out this morning in various districts of Lima injuring four people and causing considerable material damage.

Groups from the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA) began at 0600 with bomb attacks against a restaurant and a club on a downtown Lima avenue, damaging property.

Police reported that a few minutes later, bombs were thrown at a fried chicken restaurant in the Surquillo district, wounding four people, who were immediately taken to nearby hospitals.

Later an MRTA commando detonated a bomb in a luxury hotel in the Miraflores resort area, breaking windows and damaging the front of the hotel but causing no casualties.

Police also reported two minor attacks in downtown Lima, saying that the MRTA left subversive propaganda at the sites condemning government policies.

At the same time in Chimbote, 412 km north of Lima, a Tupac Amaru commando group took over the Interamericana radio station, overpowered the radio personnel, then broadcast a 10-minute message about the armed struggle before escaping.

The Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement, an organization that tries to emulate the revolution initiated in Peru by Tupac Amaru II against Spanish dominion in Cusco in 1780, emerged in mid-1984, taking over radio stations, press agencies, and attacking some police stations. Later, this organization attacked food-transporting trucks and distributed the food in the slums of Lima.

After President Alan Garcia took office, the MRTA suspended its terrorist activities in August 1985 to observe a unilateral truce and give itself time to judge the new government. In October 1985, the MRTA went back into action, attacking radio stations and assaulting trucks carrying food, which was then distributed freely.

IGLESIAS DETAILS SUPPORT GROUP ACHIEVEMENTS

PY170221 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias has told Radio Carve that at the beginning of 1986, peace in Central America is much closer. Iglesias made this statement upon returning from Guatemala, where he attended the inauguration of the new democratic government.

The foreign minister also indicated that so far there is no confirmation of the meeting of the presidents of Uruguay, Argentina, and Brazil in our country. He also talked about the meeting of the Contadora Support Group.

[Begin recording] [Iglesias] It was a positive meeting, the most positive in the last few years because the crisis or paralysis affecting Contadora was put to an end. Also, a mechanism for diplomatic action was put into operation to mobilize all the necessary means to achieve peace in Central America. During the meeting in Caraballeda, Venezuela, the basis for what we believe will be a permanent peace was established. Also, concrete proposals were made to create an environment of mutual trust in which to negotiate, and above all a very clear call was made for negotiations and the need for them to start immediately.

This was achieved unanimously, so an important environment was created for Guatemala because the eight foreign ministers who went there were able to meet with the Central American foreign ministers and presidents attending the presidential inauguration.

As a result of that meeting, a declaration was signed the night before last supporting the basis and principles of Caraballeda. This does not mean that the problem was solved, but at least an environment of trust and new dialogue was generated, and we are back at the negotiating table. This is real because yesterday morning, the five Central American presidents had breakfast together, and Vice President Tarigo was an honored guest. In other words, a dialogue has begun. This is a very auspicious event because when people talk to each other there is a better chance for understanding than when they communicate through the press. Therefore, I believe that we had a good week.

[Unidentified reporter] Does this mean that we are closer to real peace for that region, which has created so much concern in Latin America and the entire world?

[Iglesias] Well, I would say that we are at least closer to a constructive dialogue to achieve peace. This is a long road, and what has really been done is to prevent things from deteriorating to create an environment of trust and dialogue, which are the first requirements for peace. There is still a long way to go. We have at least broken up this period of dangerous deterioration in this region. [end recording]

CONTADORA, SUPPORT GROUPS TO MEET IN MARCH

PY180132 Paris AFP in Spanish 0326 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Montevideo, 16 Jan (AFP) -- It was announced tonight in Montevideo that the foreign ministers of the Contadora and Support Groups will meet in Uruguay in March, to discuss the repercussions of the message for peace, security, and democracy in Central America, which was approved at the end of last week in Caraballeda (Venezuela).

Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias said the Contadora Group countries (Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela), and those of the Support Group (Argentina, Brazil, Peru, and Uruguay), intend to contact the United States and Cuba now to analyze the document.

He said that the eight foreign ministers will meet from 6 to 9 March, at the Uruguayan resort beach of Punta del Este, (139 km east of Montevideo), to discuss these measures.

Shortly after returning from Guatemala, where he attended President Vinicio Cerezo's inauguration, Iglesias stated that the Caraballeda meeting produced very positive results that justified the hopes sustained before the meeting.

The Uruguayan foreign minister said that when they arrived in Venezuela, the mood of the meeting was that of a group of very demoralized countries, because after 3 years the situation had continued and the tensions and lack of dialogue had increased.

We realized however, that through the writing of the Caraballeda document we have prepared for the first time a document which we believe will be the basis for a permanent peace, he said.

Iglesias recognized that the document will not fully please one faction or the other, but remarked that this means we are in a good position, because peace will be obtained if all interested parties make concessions.

The document approved in Venezuela and later ratified by the five Central American countries foresees a Latin American solution to the regional conflict, self-determination, pluralist democracy, the absence of troops or foreign advisers, and the absence of support for the subversive groups.

The Uruguayan foreign minister also said that U.S. President Ronald Reagan's request for the Congress to approve funds to be given to the anti-Sandinist rebels runs counter to the foundation for peace agreed upon in Caraballeda.

He concluded that it is necessary to sit down and talk in an atmosphere of mutual trust.

SEPULVEDA ATTENDS AFRICAN-LATIN AMERICAN SEMINAR

FL181434 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0255 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Text] Mexico City, 17 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- The crisis in Africa and Latin America will be the principal subjects that Mexican Foreign Affairs Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor will discuss at the third African-Latin American seminar, which will be held in Egypt.

The Mexican Foreign Relations Secretariat has added that Foreign Secretary Sepulveda will also speak of the role of the nonaligned nations and of the Group of 77 within the political and economic crisis of these two continents.

Next Monday, the Mexican diplomat and the president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Hosni Mubarak, will study the role of the Latin American and African states at the United Nations. They will also explore options for resolving conflicts and mechanisms to keep the peace in Latin America (principally Central America) and in Africa (especially Namibia). Other points of interest will be trade, increased transfer of technology, finances, and academic cooperation.

At the third African-Latin American seminar, called Cooperation Between Africa and Latin America and the Concept of the Political Crisis and the Global Economy, Mexican representatives will include: Cassio Luisselli, of the Economic Commission for Latin America; Jorge Silva, of the College of Mexico; Carlos Rico, of the Economic Research and Teaching Center; Fernando de Mateo, of the Mexican Foreign Trade Institute, and intellectuals from the National Autonomous University of Mexico.

The seminar will be attended by representatives of Venezuela, Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, and Chile.

The Mexican foreign secretary will remain in Egypt until 25 January.

COMMERCE SECRETARY RULES OUT FREE ZONE WITH U.S.

PA191947 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0204 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Text] Ciudad Juarez (Mexico), 17 Jan (EFE) -- Mexico definitely has not considered, least of all planned, the creation of a 200-mile free zone along the border with the United States, Mexican secretary of commerce, Hector Hernandez, said here today.

At the end of a working tour, Hernandez also said that his country will not establish a common market with Canada or with the United States.

He noted that, while protectionism is on the increase, Mexico will try at least to sustain its exports in 1986.

"However, we will continue backing foreign investment here because if it is well used, it will bring us benefits," he added.

He admitted that oil revenues will be strongly limited in 1986, and announced his support for the urgent increase in the sale of manufactured goods in foreign markets.

Juarez belongs to the state of Chihuahua, and it borders the U.S. city of El Paso (Texas).

SOVIET AMBASSADOR SERGEYEV ON PEACE PROPOSAL

FL172219 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2005 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Mexico City, 17 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Today Soviet Ambassador to Mexico Rostislav Sergeyev asserted that if the United States is interested in decreasing nuclear arms production, it should support the program aimed at completely eliminating nuclear armaments proposed by the Soviet head of state a few days ago.

Interviewed at Mexico City's airport, the Soviet diplomat underscored that now it is the United States, and the three other nuclear powers -- the UK, France, and the PRC -- who have to show the international community their willingness to preserve peace in the world by supporting this proposal to be developed in a 15-year period.

He said the program consists of three stages. The first one would be carried out between the USSR and the United States for as long as 8 years. The second stage would begin in 1990 and, within 4 years, the UK, France, and the PRC -- which also have these kinds of weapons -- would be included. The third stage would end in the year 2000, when no nation would have nuclear weapons.

However, he said the interest in this project will depend on all the countries of the world and the interest shown by President Reagan's administration to thoroughly consider this Soviet proposal.

Regarding this, he said he is confident a positive response will be obtained by the U.S. Government since at the beginning of this week the U.S. President indicated that he welcomed the Soviet initiative.

The Soviet representative in Mexico called 1986 as extremely important in eliminating nuclear weapons and he called the nations of the world to unite their efforts to halt the proliferation of this kind of threat to decrease world tension.

EEC'S CHEYSSON ENDS VISIT, OFFERS FINANCIAL AID

PA172250 Mexico City XHDF Television Network in Spanish 0130 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Claude Cheysson, EEC commissioner for economic cooperation, ended his official visit to Mexico a few minutes ago. He offered EEC financial assistance for Mexico's reconstruction efforts. Olga Borovio has more.

[Begin recording] [Borovio] The EEC is willing to finance a reconstruction project to be determined by the Mexican Government, Claude Cheysson said today on behalf of the EEC. Several hours before his departure from Mexico, the statesman pointed out that he came to Mexico to listen to the Mexican Government's views on current international affairs, including terrorism, protectionism, the Third World debt, and the world economy. He also said:

[Cheysson -- in French with Spanish subtitles] Europe's commitment against terrorism is total. Moreover, it is we in Europe who are currently the principal victims of terrorism.

[Borovio] Cheysson said the 12 EEC member countries are willing to contribute funds for the repatriation of Guatemalan refugees who are in Mexico. He indicated the offer is part of the commitment Europe made with the Contadora Group to help promote peace in Central America. [end recording]

JOINT COMMISSION WITH FRANCE PLANS INVESTMENTS

FL201645 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1918 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Text] Mexico City, 18 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- French Ambassador to Mexico Maurice Bernard Bochet has reported that France will invest in Mexico over 2 billion francs (about $310,526,000) in several projects.

He indicated that the Mexico-France joint commission, which recently met, is considering important investment projects financed with French capital and other coinvestment projects.

Likewise, he said that presently the trade balance favors Mexico on 2:1 ratio inasmuch his government buys 100,000 barrels of oil per day as well as different Mexican agriculture and livestock goods, which are in great demand in the French market.

Regarding French investments here, he noted that they are only surpassed by the United States, Japan, the UK, Holland, and the FRG. The new projects, which include the tourism and industrial sector, will become a reality.

He asserted that these investments are a result of Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid's visit to Paris last August, where he held talks with his French counterpart Francois Mitterrand to seek new industrial cooperation and coinvestment ties benefitting the two countries.

He added that Air France plans to open a new Paris-Mexico route for its next spring season to boost trade and tourism between the two nations.

BELIZEAN MINISTERS ANNOUNCE TRADE AGREEMENT

FL170353 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2335 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Before the end of this year's first 3 months, Mexico will supply Belize electric energy, oil, diesel gasoline, and butane gas through a government to government agreement. After announcing this, Belizean Energy and Commerce Minister Israel Alpuche asserted that the aforementioned agreement will be signed by his country's prime minister and pertinent Mexican authorities.

He said representatives of the two governments will meet in Mexico City at the beginning of April to complete the details and sign this accord, which will greatly benefit the Belizean people. This trade agreement will be signed for at least 10 years.

Before returning home together with Belizean Minister of Commerce and Industry, Alpuche spoke about the domestic policy his government will follow during 1986 and noted that soon it will resume talks with the new Guatemalan head of state to reinitiate relations between the two countries, which have been broken because of Guatemala's claim to Belizean territory.

He said that once Guatemala adopted a democratic government, President Vinicio Cerezo expressed interest in negotiating the claim for Central America to achieve lasting peace.

The Belizean official rejected the possibility that his country become involved in the Central American conflict because it is a very healthy country that loves peace.

PRESIDENT DENIES REPORTED U.S. AID CUTBACK

PA201456 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 20 Jan 86 pp 1, 30

[Text] President Eric Arturo Delvalle has pointed out that at no time has the U.S. Government, headed by Reagan, ordered a cut in economic aid to our country, adding that the confusion stems from an article appearing last Saturday in THE MIAMI HERALD by Sam Dillon, whom he described as the one famous for writing articles that are not very exact.

The report appeared in banner headlines on the front page and pointed out that the Reagan administration is very pleased with the new civilian government in Guatemala and will pull out most of the $40 million promised to our country and turn it over to the Guatemalans.

The report added that the cut in funds is due to the abrupt manner in which Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta was removed from office.

Delvalle explained that Panama has in fact requested aid from the U.S. Government amounting to $40 million this year. However, he commented that this aid is contingent on meeting certain factors, specifically six points of which Panama has only fulfilled two.

The Panamanian president clearly said there has not been any decrease in the economic aid in the sense that the aid would be granted to another country for any reason, and if right now Panama is not going to make use of these funds, "The U.S. Agency for International Development is free to grant them to Guatemala, as it has every right to these funds."

President Delvalle stated: "As it has been said before, Panama has fulfilled two of the six points, and this calls for assistance in the form of $6 million, which we are going to receive in 1986 from USAID." He added that it is possible that additional funds will be allotted if we take other aspects into consideration.

"We are not sure that we will achieve this, but we are cautiously optimistic that we might be able to increase that amount of $6 million," Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle concluded.

DELVALLE ENDORSES 'ECONOMIC TERRORISM' REPORTS

PA171337 Panama City EL MATUTINO 16 Jan 86 p 1, 8 A

[Article by Roberto R. Rodriguez]

[Text] -- Tocumen Military Air Base -- Minutes after his arrival from Guatemala, where he attended the democratic Latin American civic celebration on the occasion of the presidential inauguration of Vinicio Cerezo, President Eric Delvalle said. "The people will reject demagogic politicians who think that they can only attain power by means other than democratic ones."

Delvalle endorsed the reports of the existence of political groups that have worked out an economic and financial terrorist plan -- locally and internationally -- to discredit the country's image in the eyes of international organizations and to hinder administrative efforts to refinance the foreign debt.

President Delvalle said that, as a matter of fact, he has heard opposition leaders say that if it were necessary to lead the country toward bankruptcy, "they are willing to do so to attain power."

Meanwhile, regarding the aforementioned economic terrorism, and after duly acknowledging that the country is experiencing difficulties and that negotiations are delicate, Ricaurte Vasquez, the minister of planning and economic policy, said that anything interfering with these negotiations would only make things more difficult.

Regarding the misinformation process carried out by opposition political groups, which has been reported by President Delvalle himself and by the leaders of the Revolutionary Democratic Party [PRD], Vasquez commented that this desire to confuse the general public only seeks to undermine the state's capacity for action, which "is an act of violence against the state."

Giving a report of his conversations with various Central and South American presidents, President Delvalle said that these conversations were centered on the efforts that Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, and Mexico, along with the Support Group, are making to achieve peace in Central America through dialogue.

"We all agreed that our countries have to make a great effort to achieve peace in the area," President Delvalle added. He stressed the fact that the ratification of the Caraballeda document by the five foreign ministers of the area was reason for "renewed faith."

Delvalle viewed this action as a confirmation that Contadora "is still valid and that it is and continues to be an example, and the only means of achieving peace in Central America."

Finally, President Delvalle said that the presidential inauguration of Vinicio Cerezo was a civic, democratic celebration for a Latin America that believes in democracy, freedom, human rights, and the discussion of political ideas.

Finally, President Delvalle announced that a preliminary meeting of Latin American foreign affairs ministers would take place in Punta del Este, Uruguay, from 6 to 9 March, to prepare the agenda for the summit of Latin American presidents that will be held in mid-year.

Along with the Panamanian president, Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia and Peruvian Foreign Minister Allan Wagner also arrived in Panama. Wagner met with his colleague, Abadia, this afternoon, before departing for Lima tonight.

ABADIA SAYS CONTADORA DOCUMENT WORK CONTINUES

PA181427 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia Arias said before his departure from Guatemala today that the technical group of the Contadora Group -- made up of Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama -- will meet in Panama City next week to work on the Contadora Group Document for Peace and Cooperation in Central America.

[Begin recording] [Abadia] This document is important because it reaffirms the unity that exists between the Central American brothers and endorses the document issued in Venezuela, which the Central Americans expressed support for yesterday. The presidents that signed [the declaration] confirmed their support for that document and the Contadora and Support Groups.

[Unidentified reporter] What document are you referring to, sir?

TEXT [Abadia] Which one do you mean?

[Reporter] The one that was signed this morning.

[Abadia] That is the document of support issued by the Central American presidents, including the new president of Guatemala.

[Reporter] When will the Contadora Group foreign ministers meet again?

[Abadia] We will set the date soon for a meeting of plenipotentiary representatives. It should take place within the next 10 or 15 days to conclude the last details of the peace document.

[Reporter] What are those last details?

[Abadia] Arms control, defense capabilities, security controls, matters regarding the internal security of the countries involved. It is a small portion.

[Reporter] How important is Nicaragua to the signing of the Contadora Document?

[Abadia] They are willing to sign as long as they receive the guarantee that the document will be fully complied with. We trust that this will be so. [end recording]

LEGAL ADIVSER SAYS NORIEGA REMARKS GROUNDLESS

PA181714 Panama City EXTRA in Spanish 15 Jan 86 p 14

[Text] Carlos H. Cuestas, LA PRENSA newspaper's legal adviser, said that General Noriega's statements regarding an alleged terrorist attack on the Panama Canal are groundless and intended to create a climate of insecurity in the country.

Cuestas, a former district attorney whose car was sprayed with buckshot by unidentified people on Friday, said that these statements only help prepare the ground for the National Defense Forces to implement its so-called national security doctrine.

When Cuestas was asked to expand on the recent attack on his LA PRENSA colleagues, the lawyer said that such an act is against the freedom of expression and is one more of the many attempts by the authorities to silence LA PRENSA's free voice.

CORRECTION TO NORIEGA ON GOVERNMENT JUNTA

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Noriega Said To Promote Government Junta" published on page N 1 of the 17 January Latin America DAILY REPORT:

The sourceline should read: Panama City QUIUBO GRAFICO in Spanish 16-23 Jan p 4, correcting name of publication.

LAST LINE

COSTA RICA

ALLEGED CONTRA ATTACKS FROM COSTA RICA DENIED

PA171916 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1837 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] San Jose, 17 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Today the Costa Rican Government categorically denied Sandinist reports that counterrevolutionary forces attacked two Nicaraguan helicopters from Costa Rica, damaging them and injuring two crew members. According to the Managua Foreign Ministry, two Mi-8 Helicopters belonging to the Nicaraguan Air Force were carrying out a mission above the San Juan River on the border near the place called Boca de San Carlos when they were attacked and damaged at midday yesterday by rifle shots allegedly from Costa Rican territory.

"That version is totally false," Deputy Security Minister Johnny Campos Loaiza said today. The area where the Sandinists claim the incident occurred, he added, "is among the most protected by the Civil Police," therefore, it "is impossible" that an action by the "contras" took place there, as Managua states.

Meanwhile, reports coming to the government from the zone bordering Nicaragua, the deputy security minister says, state that anti-Sandinist military activity continues on the other side of the river in Nicaraguan territory, and that country's government has not been able to control it. If the Sandinist Army has not been capable of eliminating the guerrillas from their territory, and if they cannot control their actions, "that is part of their internal war," but it is not Costa Rica's fault, Campos said. The attack has been claimed by the anti-Sandinist forces led by Eden Pastora, according to Jose Davila's statements to ACAN-EFE. Davila is the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) spokesman.

The Costa Rican deputy security minister stressed that Nicaragua has always tried to make the world believe that Costa Rica is an aggressor country and an anti-Sandinist ally in order to prevent peace in the country. However, that argument "has been discredited and overused, because every time they have a problem with their guerrillas in the southern part of the country, they come up with the story that they are being attacked from Costa Rica, without any reasons whatsoever for saying this," the deputy security minister concluded.

MONGE: NICARAGUA TIES 'COOL,' CONTADORA STALLED

PA191401 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1700 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Excerpts] President Luis Alberto Monge, who was visiting Palmar Sur, in the Golfito banana region of Puntarenas Province to sign documents transferring Costa Rican Banana Corporation lands and equipment to the Costa Rican Government, spoke with the Panamanian press. Regarding Contadora, Monge stressed that Costa Rica supports the group because no one has offered a better way out for the Central American conflict. He said the efforts of the peace group have stagnated. He said further that Costa Rica-Nicaragua relations are rather cool, and more so now because Costa Rica is in the middle of an electoral campaign. About this, Monge said:

[Begin recording] [Monge] I do not like the turn of events of the past few weeks.

There have been charges, attacks, and counterattacks of a moral nature against the vice president by the opposition and against opposition leaders by the National Liberation Party. I feel this is not beneficial or good for the people. The situation has been darkened and this will prevent us from having a fair electoral campaign.

[Unidentified reporter] Would you please give us an account of your government's activities?

[Monge] I am happy. This government received the country while the latter was in a very difficult condition. We have said the country was on the brink of total economic collapse. All Costa Rican sectors were terribly pessimistic. Nevertheless, we managed to stabilize the economy, lower the inflation rate from more than 80 percent down to about 10 or 9 percent where it now stands, and get the exchange market under control since currency devaluation had spiralled rapidly downward. We are in the process of passing from stabilization to reactivation. Above all, what pleases all of us Costa Ricans of all parties the most is the fact that this has been possible without altering the country's social and political peace, thus keeping intact the system of life in freedom that Costa Ricans enjoy.

[Reporter] Your opinion of Panama-Costa Rica relations at present?

[Monge] The relations between Panama and Costa Rica are very good, have always been very good. This is due mainly, not only to the fraternal love between the two peoples, but to the fact that the Panamanian and Costa Rican Governments have been respectful of and have not meddled in the domestic affairs of each other. [end recording]

EL SALVADOR

DUARTE: PEACE DEPENDS ON NICARAGUAN NEUTRALITY

PA180326 San Salvador Televisión Educativa in Spanish 1230 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Excerpts] Laying the first stone of the new bridge over the Lempa River, President Jose Napoleon Duarte was accosted by local and international journalists. This is the dialogue.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Would you please tell us about your chance meeting with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega during the inauguration of Vinicio Cerezo, the new Guatemalan president?

[Duarte] It was an interesting and unusual encounter. To tell the truth, a vacant chair happened to be between he and I and we were both 50 cm from a thousand journalists who listened to everything we said. Everything was recorded, including part of what he said today and other things I could mention. The recording also includes what all the presidents discussed, including Betancur of Colombia, Delvalle of Panama, Azcona of Honduras, U.S. Vice President Bush, Daniel Ortega, and myself. A considerable number of us were there and discussed our problems.

For instance, Ortega held the church responsible for the Nicaraguan problems. His attack against Monsignor Obando y Bravo, the church, and Radio Catolica and Catholic news media was virulent. It was truly impressive to listen to Ortega expound his views, labeling Msgr Obando y Bravo a subversive. In all, it was a violent attack against the church.

In addition, he tried to justify all of his actions, such as the domestic repression unleashed by the Marxist Sandinist government in Nicaragua. Ortega explained away everything claiming that the U.S. Marines might invade Nicaragua. This is why I think he is sick and that he suffers from a Marines and invasion syndrome.

[Reporter] Engineer, you remained silent. [laughter]

[Reporter] Engineer, what would Contadora's statement be regarding peace (?proposals) for Central America?

[Duarte] I think we should not become confused. There were two statements: One is the Guatemala statement that embodies the thought and spirit of the Caraballeda, Venezuela meeting. In Nicaragua, the Contadora document and the three implementation documents were discussed and all the governments expressed their willingness for this process to continue. This has been approved and we signed it as the Guatemala statement with the aim of continuing to search for peace in harmony. This is what we approved.

[Reporter] Mr President, regarding the meeting in Esquipulas, what will be the general and specific subjects to be discussed?

[Duarte] Several topics have been considered for the meeting in Esquipulas. Of course, the foremost topic will be peace in Central America. I have explained that social and democratic achievements can be attained either through force or willingness and that, undoubtedly, Somoza's has been a policy of force. In Ecuador, we attended an inauguration of a democratic president. In Guatemala, we have attended the inauguration of Cerezo, for which the Guatemalan people and Army are proud. In Guatemala, we signed a document in which all of the presidents, including Ortega, acknowledged the leading role of democracy, understanding, and willingness in the search for peace in Guatemala. For this, the document congratulated the people and the Armed Forces. Ortega signed this document. This is very important [words indistinct] the question is a little lengthier. In addition to this, during the presidents' meeting, we will discuss all of the topics related to Central America, including Contadora. We will also discuss the possibility of a Central America parliament. The idea would be for free elections to be held in all of Central America in which all political parties and social forces can participate. This means that the Nicaraguan Government must decide whether it will permit truly free elections in Nicaragua as we have held in El Salvador and Guatemala. This will also be discussed during this meeting.

Naturally, we will deal with bilateral problems. I told Ortega: If you guarantee to Central America that you will not export the revolution and if you guarantee to El Salvador that Nicaragua will not become a sanctuary for the Salvadoran guerrillas, then that is your best guarantee against any fear of being invaded. This is what I told him during the meeting. As a result, these are the topics we will discuss. Undoubtedly, many things do separate us and we agree on many others. These are the things that we must seek. This is why dialogue is good and we must work for understanding among the peoples. That is why when Ortega asked me whether I believed in dialogue, I told him: I believe in dialogue, yet not a strategic dialogue but one to seek peace in Central America. [end recording]

DUARTE VIEWS RESULTS OF TRIP TO GUATEMALA

PA180300 San Salvador Television Educativa in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Excerpts] Upon his return to El Salvador, President Jose Napoleon Duarte said that the heads of state who attended the transfer of power in Guatemala signed a document supporting Contadora.

The constitutional president of the Republic and general Armed Forces commander was received at the military air terminal at Ilopango upon his return from Guatemala, where he headed the official Salvadoran delegation to the inauguration of new Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo. President Duarte expressed pleasure over Cerezo's assumption of power.

Duarte stressed that there was a meeting of Central American presidents at which four [as heard] fundamental topics were broached.

[Begin Duarte recording] There were two important moments, one of which was very unusual, so to speak, a few minutes before the formal ceremony. It consisted of a meeting that took place 50 cm from the newsmen. In this encounter we engaged in a real exchange of views with the presidents who were there -- that is, President Betancur, President Delvalle of Panama, Ortega, myself, and Honduran President-elect Azona. A number of things -- ideas, thoughts -- were expressed there. Obviously, they will reach the press and will be of some significance.

In addition, we, the presidents, held a luncheon this morning at which we approved a document containing fundamental points. The first point is a tribute to the Guatemalan Government and people -- and of course to the Guatemalan Armed Forces -- for their huge effort and their enormous bravery in leading their country toward democracy. I said that a people can conquer freedom in two ways: using force or through determination. In Guatemala, the people and the Armed Forces have shown determination to achieve democracy and freedom. I feel that we have done the same in El Salvador. We have shown determination to achieve freedom and democracy. We have not used violent means and have not given any thought to a destructive revolution. We have thought of a revolution that can build. Therefore, this frame of mind led me to think of rendering tribute to the Guatemalan people and Armed Forces for the effort they made to exert their will in order to achieve freedom.

Another topic we broached and discussed was the meeting of Central American presidents. President Vinicio Cerezo has suggested Esquipulas, as the historical, emotional, and spiritual center of Central America, as the place for us to meet and seek paths to peace, possibly after the elections in Costa Rica and the assumption of power by the new Costa Rican president.

Of course, we also approved the declaration of Guatemala, which is a ratification of the work done by the foreign ministers in Caraballeda, Venezuela a few days ago regarding the Contadora problem and the support from European and South American countries for Contadora's efforts. We discussed these four issues and one more, which was considering the possibility of holding a meeting of Latin American presidents -- probably in Panama. This is an initiative of the Peruvian president. We think that that is a good idea and that the Central American presidents are willing to support it. I think this will be sufficient information for the Salvadoran people.

Regarding my description of the meeting as unusual and the dispute over concepts and ideologies we held with Daniel Ortega, I imagine we will discuss this at some point. [end recording]

D'AUBUISSON CRITICIZES DUARTE, ORTEGA TALKS

PA210325 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 18 Jan 86 pp 5, 19

[Text] Duarte must explain to the people to what extent he committed the country by making concessions to Daniel Ortega during their very cordial meeting reported by international news agencies, Major Roberto D'Aubuisson said yesterday.

In order not to hurt his family's dignity, he should not have gotten so close to the man who coordinated his daughter's kidnapping, the ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] leader said.

Out of consideration for the Salvadoran people, he should have sat at the very opposite end from the one who is responsible for our country's bleeding, D'Aubuisson stressed.

Just for the sake of the minimum political respect he should have for his party, the Christian Democratic Party (which claims not to be Marxist), he should not have gotten near the Marxist-Sandinist leader who is responsible for the war declared on us from abroad.

D'Aubuisson added that Duarte, as commander in chief of the Armed Forces, should not have even shaken hands with the man who has been helping the guerrillas who have been killing commanders, officers, noncommissioned officers, soldiers, guards, and policemen of the Army and Security Corps in attacks and ambushes.

He added: We must point out that Duarte has not realized that the photographs that have been published are very compromising and that therefore he owes many explanations to the public, because only 3 months ago, he said that his daughter's kidnapping was coordinated, handled, and planned in Marxist Nicaragua, whose government is headed by Ortega.

D'Aubuisson said Marxist Ortega arrived in Guatemala seeking publicity, and forced the Nicaraguan athletes who had participated in the Third Central American Games to decorate him with the medals they had won. In addition, he took advantage of the show [preceding word in English] given to him by Duarte on a silver platter by sitting beside him in view of the fact that because Duarte has created for himself an image as a moderate in Europe and the United States, the publication of Duarte's photographs with Ortega improve the latter's image.

D'Aubuisson added that Duarte forgot the collaboration he received from friendly governments, and the fact that he is president only because of them -- as he did not win the presidency with the votes of the Salvadorans, but because he had the support of his friends abroad and that those governments have always been opposed to Nicaragua's position.

I believe that the channels between communitarianism and Marxism are functioning again and that everything Duarte said about Nicaragua during his daughter's kidnapping was only a big show, D'Aubuisson said.

We know from Duarte himself and from the people that Nicaragua supplies weapons and ammunition to the Salvadoran mangy-dog guerrillas, he stressed.

Maj D'Aubuisson demanded an explanation from Duarte, and Duarte's assurance that he has not betrayed the Armed Forces, as it is inconceivable that he, as commander in chief, should appear in a photograph with the commander in chief of an enemy force, because at the time they were being photographed they were not discussing official matters to solve our problems.

In conclusion, D'Aubuisson said that if Duarte considers that what Ortega has done against El Salvador is democratic, he should explain it, because he is a Marxist-Leninist totalitarian, his victory in the Nicaraguan elections was fraudulent, and furthermore, he is the worst potential enemy of El Salvador and the rest of the Central American countries.

1 MAY COMMITTEE PROTESTS DUARTE ECONOMIC PLAN

PA201537 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Jan 86

[By Joel Burgos]

[Text] Approximately 3,000 workers and students who are members of the 1 May Committee marched through the main streets of San Salvador this morning to demand that the Jose Napoleon Duarte administration respect the country's sovereignty and the dignity of the workers and peasants. They also protested the economic package, which calls among other things for an increase in the price of staples and fuel, and for more taxes.

The march, which left from Cuscatlan Square, ended at Libertad Square, where the leaders of the march held a rally and read a communique:

[Begin recording of unidentified speaker] Aware of its historical duty, the 1 May Committee is holding this rally on behalf of the majority of the Salvadoran people, who are present here to protest the repressive measures being implemented against our people. [applause]

We are here to denounce and protest these measures and also to demand respect and solutions to the problems affecting us, which are:

1. An outrageous approximate 200-percent increase in the price of staples, an increase which began last December, at which time the government made the demagogic announcement that it would increase the state and municipal workers' wages by only 100 colones.

2. An economic package with measures that are going to affect the majority of the people, measures which call for increasing the price of gasoline and other fuels and in adding more taxes to the ones we already have.

3. The refusal to pass a general law on cooperatives, which would help rural workers.

4. The refusal to approve a realistic budget for the National University.

5. Lack of respect for the nation's sovereignty. We want the mortgaging of El Salvador to the U.S. Government and the following of the Reagan administration's instruction and policies to stop. [applause]

We also demand:

6. An end to the violations of human rights.

7. An end to the drafting of our youth into the Army against their will.

8. That the social, economic, labor, and political demands of the workers and the people in general be met.

9. That the bombing of the civilian population be stopped and that displaced persons be allowed to return to their homes with their safety fully guaranteed by the Armed Forces. [end recording]

The 1 May Committee leaders also asked that rural workers get paid 15 colones for a regular day's work, plus 9 colones for food, and that factory, business, and other service workers by paid 30 colones daily.

Here is what a 1 May Committee leader told me:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker] Our peace march has three main objectives: One, to demand that the government show respect for the country's sovereignty; two, to show respect for the dignity of the workers and peasants; and three, to reject the economic package the government is trying to implement.

[Reporter] How many labor organizations are affiliated with the 1 May Committee?

[Speaker] City and rural workers, university students, state and municipal workers, cooperatives, and other organizations comprise the 1 May Committee.

[Reporter] Are you going to deliver this document to Duarte?

[Speaker] We feel that it is enough if we read it to the people. Duarte has never sent us a note specifically addressed to the workers. Therefore, we are using his own method of directly telling the people what they should know.

[Reporter] Have you met with Duarte?

[Speaker] No, we have not. There are some labor representatives who for some reason felt they were committed to attend a meeting which turned out to be, as we expected, a gimmick to justify Duarte's political position in the eyes of international public opinion.

[Reporter] What other measures are you planning to take?

[Speaker] We still do not know. However, as we have said before, we are prepared to go to the streets in all 14 departments of the country to make the workers' complaints heard. [end recording]

This was a report on what took place today in San Salvador when 3,000 workers and students of the 1 May Committee carried out a march to protest the economic package the Salvadoran Government is trying to implement.

ARMY STRATEGY FOR 'OPERATION PHOENIX' OUTLINED

PA181406 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 17 Jan 86 pp 2, 56

[Text] Coprefa [Armed Forces Press Committee] has reported the death of 23 terrorists, the arrest of another 23, and the confiscation of 13 rifles and ammunition as the results of "Operation Phoenix."

Reporting this, a Coprefa spokesman said these are the results of the first 5 days of this military operation being carried out by the 1st Infantry Brigade jointly with other Army units and Air Forces planes in a government attempt to rid Guazapa Hill and its surroundings of guerrilla redoubts. This operation covers an estimated area of 1,500 square kilometers that extend to Aguilares, Guazapa, San Jose Guayabal, Suchitoto, Suchitlan lake, and other hamlets and villages located at the foot of this mountainous region.

Coprefa also said the guerrillas sustained three casualties. These extremeists were shot.

In addition, the Armed Forces deplored the death of 2 soldiers and the fact that the number of troops was reduced by 10 more soldiers, who were shot during the heavy fighting that has occurred in the region, over which the army seeks complete control. The army intends to leave permanent military bases throughout Guazapa Hill to prevent clandestine groups of the FMLN from gathering there again.

The 23 prisoners are being questioned about the various aspects of terrorism, and the information they have supplied is being thoroughly analyzed by Military Intelligence to verify first and then to determine its importance within the plans of extortion, blackmail, and crimes that the FMLN is committing constantly to the detriment of civilians.

Just as General Adolfo Onecifero Blandon, commander of the Armed Forces General Staff, explained from the beginning, the Coprefa spokesman said that it cannot be determined yet how long "Operation Phoenix" will last. Between 4,000 and 5,000 troops are participating in this operation. Their mission is to comb Guazapa Hill inch by inch to discover and destroy training, living, and Marxist indoctrination camps that have been operating there since the 1970's.

The spokesman emphasized that despite the dimension of "Operation Phoenix," it has permitted other Armed Forces detachments and brigades to continue their routine counterinsurgency operations throughout the country. This is a guarantee to the citizens, who can conduct their activities normally.

Referring to the Guazapa Hill operation again, he noted that it was planned very carefully, so its results are expected to be in line with initial projections, which imply a large-scale effort by the Armed Forces carried out not only to protect the region, but to spread trust among its residents so they can return to their property and resume their productive tasks under the Army's protection.

FMLN SAYS TRANSPORTATION STOPPAGE SUCCESSFUL

PA210058 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 19 Jan 86

[Text] The national transportation stoppage decreed by the FMLN has been successfully enforced for the 3d day; it is one of the most effective stoppages ever carried out during our liberation war. The country's eastern and northern zones are 95 percent paralyzed, according to the reports from the news media. In addition, Economy Minister Edmundo Viera [as heard] referred to the lack of fuel in the country for the past few days, saying that the government will supply fuel to the eastern zone and other zones. Due to the national transportation stoppage, this action has not been carried out.

In addition, the increased sabotage actions against electric energy have paralyzed a great part of the oligarchy's economic structure. The sabotage on the transportation sector has also paralyzed international trade. A report coming from the border post of El Amatillo, between Honduras and El Salvador, indicates that international trade activities have been interrupted. Meanwhile, the traffic of containers from Guatemala and Honduras which pass through Santa Ana has been stopped by the transportation stoppage. Thus, the international transportation activities have also been paralyzed in that region.

Sugar cane and coffee production has also been affected by the transportation stoppage. Sugar cane and coffee mills in the country have begun to halt their activities given the lack of raw material for processing. The sugar cane and coffee carriers have followed the instructions issued by the FMLN general command.

The maritime ports have also been paralyzed. The success of our national transportation stoppage has also been felt in the country's maritime ports; the shipment of export products to other countries has stopped because the containers with these export products have not reached the ports. The transportation strike has affected Santa Ana, Ahuachapan, and Sonsonate Departments for the first time. The guerrilla units' presence has been felt due to our control of the highways in those western departments. These actions, plus the successful takeover of Juayua, Sonsonate Department; the various ambushes carried out against the dictatorship's Army along the western highways; and the sabotage actions carried out by the urban guerrillas in the city of Santa Ana confirm the consolidation of the FMLN's strategic guidelines of extending the people's war to all our national territory!

WOMEN'S FRONT OPPOSED TO KENNEDY, CARTER VISITS

PA180102 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 16 Jan 86 pp 2, 85

[Text] Representatives of the Salvadoran Women's Front [Frente Femenino Salvadoreno] said yesterday that Salvadoran women repudiate the visits to our country of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Senator Edward Kennedy that have been announced for this weekend. Kennedy, who is ironically known as the Chappaquiddick hero for his cowardly attitude in the 1969 tragedy that resulted in the death of his secretary Mary Jo Kopechne, is currently touring Latin America. Apparently, the objective of his tour is to evaluate the achievements of the Alliance for Progress, a program implemented during the administration of his brother John Fitzgerald Kennedy. There were a number of demonstrations against Kennedy during his recent visit to Chile. The demonstrations included both men and women who stoned the vehicle in which Kennedy was traveling, making it necessary to send a helicopter to his rescue. Jimmy Carter, who is largely responsible for the catastrophic reforms and the awkward political manipulation of human rights in El Salvador, will reportedly be the second visitor. According to well-infomed sources in Miami, he will travel to our country on a date that has not been decided.

Kennedy is expected to arrive in our country this weekend as part of his Central American tour, which will also include Guatemala and Nicaragua. In commenting on Kennedy's possible visit to El Salvador, representatives of the Women's Front said anything can be expected from this government, even the visit from these persons who have caused so much harm to our country and to the entire American continent. Our sources added: Examples of this harm were Cuba's adherence to international communism during John Kennedy's administration, and the Carter administration's submission to Nicaragua.

We hope that democratic sectors will protest the presence of these persons in our country because it would be another insult to our battered dignity at this time when superior orders have imposed an economic package on us.

GUATEMALA

CEREZO OUTLINES PRESIDENTIAL OBJECTIVES, PLANS

PM171058 Barcelona LA VANGUARDIA in Spanish 14 Jan 86 p 10

[Interview with President Vinicio Cerezo by Joaquim Ibarz in Guatemala; date not given]

[Excerpts] Guatemala -- "In the event of a military coup I will imitate Salvador Allende rather than the overthrown presidents who go into exile.

"If the Army attempts an overthrow it can be certain that I will shoot to defend constitutional legality and the National Palace will become a new Moneda Palace from which we will fight the putschists," LA VANGUARDIA was told by Christian Democrat Vinicio Cerezo, who today becomes Guatemalan president after over 30 years of dictatorships or military regimes.

During the interview Cerezo stressed that his basic priority will be to establish right away and to consolidate a democratic regime in which the Constitution will be observed.

"We will work on the basis of democracy. We must advance toward the establishment of a system of security and legality. The greatest challenge facing the new government is unquestionably a consolidation of this system of legality which will guarantee us two things: first, the strengthening of the Supreme Court of Justice, capable of ensuring observance of the law; and, second, reorganization of the state security bodies to make them subject to political, not only military, control."

He added that his aim is to ensure that Guatemala has the strongest democracy, not the strongest Army. "For the present," he said with measured confidence, "the military leaders accept that their hour is past and they must return to their barracks, leaving government in the hands of civilians elected by the people in free elections."

"If there is a coup," he said, "the military will have to face up to a civil war, with the danger of losing. Guatemalans are unwilling to tolerate another dictatorship. The Army must observe the Constitution, and if they do not they will have to silence the people with their guns and face the world's repudiation."

Despite these unconcealed fears, the new president voiced his confidence that the Army will accept the new civilian government:

"It is difficult to believe that all the power that the military monopolized for decades will be automatically transferred as a result of a vote. My hope is that the Guatemalan process will be consolidated. There are factors which enable me to remain optimistic. It was very important that, for the first time in Guatemala's political history, a candidate's victory was accepted immediately. Furthermore, the conversations I have had with top Army officers indicate that the military will accept the orders of a civilian president. These signs permit me to believe that the transfer of power from the military to civilians will not be traumatic."

He stated very categorically that the ever present fear of a coup will not influence his activity as president: "We prefer to run the risk of a coup d'etat to permitting the Armed Forces to prevent us from fully exercising our political powers. We will honor our historic pledge to the full although, as I am well aware, it may oblige me to leave the National Palace feet first."

He also stressed that the Army must accept its new role in Guatemalan society -- guaranteeing the security of the democratic institutions. Another no less important challenge is that of professionalizing the security bodies, which are responsible for thousands of kidnappings and murders: He has already announced that one of his first measures will be to dissolve the most repressive police organization.

When I pointed out to him that some provincial military leaders have said that they will not submit to the political decisions of a civilian president, Cerezo said he will work in accordance with constitutional requirements, which state that the president is commander-in-chief of the Army and the political guide of the Armed Forces and the population.

"We will create the conditions for it all to be universally accepted. I will not seek confrontation but neither will I be a soft president. No one must obstruct or undermine the authority of the president in order to prevent him from fully exercising his political power. History teaches us a great deal. Back in 1966 we had the experience of President Cesar Mendez Montenegro -- now Guatemala's ambassador to Mexico -- who, in good faith, I believe, came to an agreement with the military to share power with the Army. The result was a breakdown of democracy itself, because the military leaders resumed their old practices of a de facto government. We cannot accept that."

With regard to international matters, Cerezo said Guatemala will pursue an "unconstrained policy," without submitting to Washington's dictates. "We want to be friends and companions of the U.S. Government but not tools of its policy in Central America."

He intends to restore diplomatic relations with Cuba and other socialist countries, but not in a hurried manner. "We will pursue a foreign policy without ideological prejudices. Therefore I do not rule out the restoration of relations with Cuba. The Reagan administration will not define our course, although of course we will seek to strengthen relations of all kinds with the United States. When I was in Washington I encountered understanding, and they accepted that for the time being we did not need military aid. There was mutual respect. This stance did not prompt any negative responses or pressures from the Guatemalan Army."

He admitted that it will be necessary to negotiate with Belize an honorable agreement that guarantees Guatemala access to the sea but recognizes the former British colony as an independent community. "I know that it will be difficult for the extremist nationalist sectors to accept this, but they must understand that to rule out the chances of an accord with Belize also means ruling out relations with the Caribbean and other parts of the world. We will resolve this problem peacefully and politically. This attitude of dialogue will be maintained toward the rest of Central America. We will not seek confrontation with Nicaragua or support any kind of intervention. A war would not resolve any problems, would destroy the countries of the area, and would make us dependent on both East and West."

Vinicio Cerezo hopes to pay an official visit to Spain in the coming months, having had to cancel his scheduled visit as president-elect. "From what their leaders have told me, the Spanish people have adopted a stance of great solidarity and hope with regard to Guatemala's democratizing process."

Asked whether the Spanish people will have forgotten the ferocious attack on Spain's Embassy by the Guatemalan Armed Forces, which claimed dozens of casualties on 31 January 1980, Cerezo said such a lamentable and deplorable incident should not be forgotten but remembered in order to avoid committing such errors in the future. "Our desire is to find correct and rapid ways of resolving whatever problems may remain from the past and to improve relations between Spain and Guatemala. This attitude will ensure that the Spanish people will feel pleased and satisfied when I visit their country."

Under recent military governments Cerezo was the only Guatemalan politician to state publicly that Spain's terms for restoring diplomatic relations between the two countries should be accepted. "I believe that what happened at the embassy will bring our people closer together because the Guatemalans were the first to deplore and express their horror at that event, which brought so much shame on us." Guatemala's new president also stressed that Spain's democratization process will be a constant reference point for his country. "In Spain it has been shown that a democratic process led by realistic and therefore prudent politicians, who are nevertheless steadfast in their determination to consolidate democracy, can succeed.

"In the future, constant and permanent communication between the Spanish Government and Guatemala's new democratic government will permit an exchange of experiences that will help us to not commit errors that can be avoided and to make the most of positive experiences so the civilian government can be consolidated." Cerezo said that the fact that Spain is governed by a Socialist prime minister and that a Christian Democrat has come to power in Guatemala will not constitute an obstacle to this continuous cooperation. "We respect parties' ideological stances, and our only concern is that they be democratic. If they are democratic and if, moreover, they enjoy the people's support, there is no better reason for maintaining good relations."

Last, he said that when he visits Spain he will also ask that Guatemala be granted solidarity in the technological and economic fields. "Spain's economic experience is very valuable. Not only have there been contacts, but some Spanish investors have shown interest in investing in Guatemala. We will open our doors and facilitate these Spanish investments."

CEREZO ASKS PEOPLE FOR UNDERSTANDING, PATIENCE

PA181442 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 1230 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Text] President Vinicio Cerezo, the friendly president -- words he used to describe himself last night during a radio and television network program -- said he does not have a magic wand that he can simply wave to immediately resolve all of the country's problems. He asked the people for their understanding and support in an attempt to prevent disorders and anarchy.

Specifically speaking of the problem of land invasion, Cerezo Arevalo said he is very much aware of the problems many Guatemalans are facing. However, he asked them to be patient so the problems can be handled properly and effectively. During last night's message broadcast in radio and television, President Cerezo gave himself 126 days to resolve the housing problems faced by hundreds of people who, in a desperate act, decided to illegally occupy empty lots in several areas of the city. President Cerezo said he has the best intentions to work and resolve the most urgent problems; however, he asked the residents of Guatemala City, and the country in general, for calm and understanding.

NEW ARMY CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF INSTALLED

PA200030 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 17 Jan 86 p 2

[Excerpt] Yesterday there were three changes in the Guatemalan Army, starting with the installation of General Hector Alejandro Gramajo Morales as chief of the Army General Staff to replace General Rodolfo Lobos Zamora. Defense Minister General Jaime Hernandez Mendez installed Gen Gramajo during a special ceremony. The second change involved Colonel Eliu Cabrera Padilla, who was installed as deputy defense minister replacing Colonel Juan Francisco Aguilar. The third change involved the installation of Captain Juan Fernando Cifuentes as Army chief of press and information, replacing Colonel Marco Antonio Castellanos who will be chief of a section within the Ministry of Defense.

NEW FOREIGN MINISTER ON BELIZE, REFUGEE PROBLEM

PA180405 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Mario Quinonez Amezquita was sworn in today as foreign minister to replace Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran.

Until 1 year ago, Quinonez Amezquia served as Guatemalan ambassador to the United Nations in New York. During the past several months he has served as deputy rector of the Rafael Andivar Catholic University. Foreign Minister Quinonez Amezquita discussed the Belize problem as follows:

[Begin recording] This will take some time. We will begin to [words indistinct] we will work on. I cannot speak in terms of how or when at this time, although this will be a problem we will address and move forward on. I want to point out that the president of the Republic is the one who defines and establishes the country's foreign policy. I, together with the ambassadors, will simply execute that foreign policy. I will offer counsel to the president and express my opinions.

For example, I advocate following the same policy Guatemala upheld for some time -- namely, that we have a problem with the UK and that therefore we must seek a solution to that problem. We cannot sit at the negotiation table for direct talks with Belize because we have not recognized the Belizean Government. They can attend eventual meetings with the British Government as observers, but we will not sit down for direct, official negotiations with the Belizean Government because we have not recognized it. [end recording]

Quinonez Amezquita said the new administration is concerned about the problem of Guatemalan refugees in Mexico.

[Begin recording] [Quinonez] That is one of the problems the Foreign Relations Ministry must face and attempt to resolve. We will find solutions gradually. Problems cannot be resolved overnight. We want those Guatemalans who are abroad to return to their country. No one can deny Guatemalans the right to live in their country.

[Unidentified reporter] What changes will you make in your ministry, sir?

[Quinonez] We will see what the needs are. That will determine the changes we will make to benefit the government. [end recording]

HONDURAS

SANDINIST TROOPS INSIDE HONDURAS, KILL PEASANT

PA201436 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1418 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 20 Jan (DPA) -- According to media sources in Tegucigalpa, General Walter Lopez, Commander in Chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, has reported the presence of Sandinist troops in Honduras. According to the sources, General Lopez made this statement over the weekend in San Pedro Sula, 250 kilometers north of Tegucigalpa where, together with civilian authorities, he attended the inauguration of a housing complex for journalists.

"We have informed the Foreign Secretariat about the presence of troops of the Sandinist People's Army 2 km inside Honduran territory," General Lopez said. However, he did not mention the specific location of the Nicaraguan soldiers. General Lopez said the Armed Forces are not capable of controlling the movement of people at the Honduran-Nicaraguan border and that therefore there is a constant flow of Nicaraguan citizens who emigrate from their country to Honduras.

Meanwhile, a correspondent for Tegucigalpa's Radio America in the city of Danli reported today that last Thursday, near the community of Trojes, in El Paraiso Department, Sandinists killed a Honduran peasant woman after seriously wounding one of her sons.

The peasant woman was identified as Argentina Blandon de Mendoza, 56, and her son as Fidel Ernesto Mendoza, 36, who is in critical condition at the public hospital in Danli.

Radio America also reported today that yesterday, at an unspecified point at the Honduran-Nicaraguan border, four Honduran soldiers and a Honduran woman died when they stepped on a mine that had been brought from Nicaragua to Honduran territory. Military sources in Tegucigalpa told Radio America that today the Armed Forces Public Relations Office will give a detailed report on the incidents.

AZCONA ON U.S. TRIP, ALLEGED RIFT IN PARTY

PA171944 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1420 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Interview with President-elect Jose Azcona by unidentified reporters before departing for Guatemala on 14 January; place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] What do you plan to (?do in Washington)?

[Azcona] In Washington we will meet with various sectors, including members of the Senate, the Congress, Vice President Bush, Secretary of State Shultz, the chief of the National Security Council -- in sum, with many people to get the feeling on the status of current relations between Honduras and the United States. We will listen to their views in order to bring to the presidency a clear concept of our relations with the United States.

[Question] Will you return today from Guatemala?

[Azcona] No, tomorrow.

[Question] Will you head for Washington on Thursday?

[Azcona] We will leave for Washington on Thursday.

[Question] As leader of the Liberal Party at this time and winner of the January [as heard] election, what is your opinion on claims that ALIPO [Peoples Liberal Alliance] is exerting pressure on your supporters and that this has brought about a crisis within the party?

[Azcona] This is not true at all. Everything is all right. There is no problem; at least, I have not noticed any problem. I have not been pressured by our original group, ALIPO, or any other sector because we do not like to be pressured. In honor to the truth, we have not been pressured, everything has been calm.

AZCONA VISITS U.S., MEETS WITH OFFICIALS

PA181621 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Honduran President-elect Jose Azcona del Hoyo met with Elliott Abrams, assistant secretary of state for Inter-American affairs, yesterday.

Abrams was waiting for Azcona del Hoyo at the Madison Hotel, where the latter is staying. In addition, he will meet with White House officials today.

Avoids Discussion of Contras

PA191329 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2150 GMT 18 Jan 86

[By Alberto Garcia Marrder]

[Text] Washington, 18 Jan (EFE) -- Honduran President-elect Jose Azcona today concluded a brief visit to the United States without clarifying whether his government will permit the presence of Nicaraguan "contras" on Honduran territory. At a news conference that lasted 1 and 1/2 hours, Azcona avoided any direct statement on the issue despite the constant questions posed by the reporters for a definition of his intentions.

The presence of "contras" and the use of Honduran terriotry as a base from which to launch attacks against Nicaragua is not officially recognized by the current Tegucigalpa government, which insists that they are fighting "inside Nicaragua."

Azcona, who will assume his post on 27 January, said, however, that the "contra" problem is one of many in the Central American crisis that should be settled within an overall agreement based on the principles of the Contadora document. Among the problems that should be settled within this context, the Honduran leader mentioned the arms race unleashed by Nicaragua in the Central American region, which forces Honduras to spend large sums of money which could be used for other things, and the arms trafficking to the Salvadoran guerrillas.

"It is necessary to find an overall solution to the Central American conflict, rather than resolving just one aspect, such as that of the 'contras'", Azcona added, reiterating that his government is already prepared to sign the principles of the Contadora document.

He affirmed that the presence of the "contras" is one of the irregular actions existing in Central America which must be settled within the context of the overall accord on the problems of the region.

During the 2 days he remained in Washington, Azcona met with U.S. Vice President George Bush, and with the secretaries of state, George Shultz, and defense, Caspar Weinberger.

Azcona denied having been pressured by the Reagan administration to permit the presence of Nicaraguan "contras" in exchange for economic aid. "This issue was never brought up in our talks. On the contrary, we expressed our viewpoints, without linking them to the economic aspect," the president-elect added.

Concerning Nicaragua, Azcona pointed out that he has the impression that the Sandinist commanders are Marxist-Leninists, "but I also believe they are not radicalized and Nicaragua is still redeemable. Therefore, isolation by the OAS, as was done with Cuba, is not necessary."

Azcona revealed that he had told Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega last Tuesday that he was not concerned over the economic changes the Sandinist regime has made in Nicaragua, but over the lack of freedom, the abuses against the church, and the press censorship, among other violations of the citizens' rights. Azcona and Ortega met in Gutaemala during the recent inauguration of the new Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo.

"I have already told Commander Ortega that Nicaragua must fulfill its 1979 promise to the OAS about democratic pluralism -- a promise being violated in his country," Azcona added. The new Honduran president reported that he invited Ortega to attend his inauguration in Tegucigalpa and that Ortega had told him he "would certainly attend." "Personally I have nothing against Commander Ortega. On the contrary, I think he is a very interesting person," Azcona explained.

On other topics discussed at the news conference, Azcona said:

Devaluation of the lempira: "We have expressed our total opposition to that measure and they have listened to us."

IMF: "The meeting was discussed, because we do not share their opinion on the devaluation of our currency and we disagree with the criterion of the fund on the origin of the economic problems of the small countries."

Debt problem: "These are due to unfair terms of commercial exchange between the industrialized countries and those in the process of development."

Military maneuvers in Honduras: "Secretary Weinberger accepted our proposal for the U.S. soldiers to engage in engineering work, especially the dredging of the Aqua River."

Violations of human rights: "Unfortunately they have existed in Honduras, although they have been reduced in the past few years. My government will not permit any violation of human rights, and neither will it permit terrorist and subversive actions, which will be dealt with by the full weight of the law."

SUAZO ON TRANSFER OF POWER, TIES WITH U.S.

PA171405 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0130 GMT 16 Jan 86

["Exclusive" interview with President Roberto Suazo Cordova by Adolfo Hernandez after ceremony commemorating the 104th anniversary of the Police Corps on 15 January; place not given -- recorded; broadcast in progress]

[Excerpts] [Suazo] ... ask me if I will attend the inauguration, as it is my duty. When I assumed the presidency, I promised to comply and to ensure compliance with the Constitution and laws; therefore, with all respect, I beg you not to ask me such a question.

[Hernandez] Regarding the transfer of government, you are completing a very important historical cycle, as you will be handing over a civilian government to another civilian government, which will also be of your same party, the Liberal Party of Honduras (PLH). What does this mean for you?

[Suazo] As I have said before, the greatest satisfaction for President Roberto Suazo Cordova, who is an active member of the PLH, will be to deliver the presidential sash to another Liberal president. I said so during the political campaign. However, it would have been equally pleasant to deliver the presidency to anyone from the National Party, PINU [Innovation and Unity Party], or the Christian Democratic Party. That is my duty and my obligation: to honor the oath I made at the stadium on 27 January 1982, when I promised to comply with and ensure compliance with the Constitution and laws.

That is why I said -- and the recordings are there -- that I will not stay an extra day or a day less. As I said before, I have not had to leave not even a day before, thanks to the people and the Armed Forces' support, which support they have given me at all times.

[Hernandez] How do you feel 12 days before handing over the government?

[Suazo] I am a very happy man because I am going to comply with my duty. Furthermore, I think that 4 years is enough for a president, as one becomes aware of the great problems while in the presidency. As I have said, I assumed the presidency at a time of great economic crisis, and at a time when the Central American crisis was at its peak. However, I am satisfied because I will hand over a country in peace and liberty, and an economy which is more or less stable, as well as an Army that is becoming more and more professional, and which is at the people's service.

I hope that all the Honduran people will support our Commander in Chief General Walter Lopez Reyes and the other officers, and troops of our Armed Forces. I urge the media to continue supporting our Armed Forces and the next constitutional government to be inaugurated on 27 January 1986.

[Hernandez] What would be your recommendations to your successor regarding Honduran-U.S. relations?

[Suazo] Well, I think I must not impose norms. Each president should know what is best to do. We have maintained and continue to maintain cordial relations with the U.S. Government and people, whom we know have given us the most help. However, it would not be right for me to impose norms on the president-elect.

[Hernandez] How would you describe your relations with the United States? During the past few days someone said they have deteriorated. There was an exchange of notes, which caused some confusion in national and international public opinion. Are our relations with the U.S. Government really good?

[Suazo] Of course our relations with the U.S. Government are good. What happened was that the economic cabinet published several documents that the U.S. Embassy tried to disregard afterward. We were clear, and reiterated that we had spoken the truth. As the president of the Central Bank said, there have been pressures on us to devalue our currency since 1982.

However, as you know, this sum -- the $60 million -- should have been disbursed in October. Why were these funds withheld? That was their decision. So as we were only a few days -- approximately 1 month -- from the date of the transfer of government on 27 January, we decided that the new government would benefit from the $60 million, as well as from other commitments with the Venezuelan Government. We considered that it was best for the new government to sign for and receive these funds.

[Hernandez] How did you interpret this attitude of the U.S. Government?

[Suazo] I have not interpreted this attitude negatively. Now, as a journalist, what do you think about the attitude assumed by the government I preside over and my economic cabinet? We could not accept those conditions because to do so would have practically created an official parallel market, which would have placed us on the verge of a devaluation. To do so would have been an act of bad faith against Azcona; however, for me, Honduran interests come before the [word indistinct] interests.

NICARAGUA

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON ORTEGA'S GUATEMALA TRIP

PA171529 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Communique issued by the Ministry of Information and Press of the Presidency of the Republic of Nicaragua in Managua on 16 January -- read by announcer]

[Text] The Ministry of Information and Press of the Presidency of the Republic of Nicaragua states that:

1. On the occasion of the inauguration of Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo, President Daniel Ortega Saavedra exchanged views with the presidents of Guatemala, Colombia, Panama, and El Salvador, as well as the Honduran president-elect and other personalities present in Guatemala City. In his different meetings with the Central American leaders, President Ortega discussed bilateral matters, the international situation, and the present status of the Central American negotiating process. At the meeting of presidents of Guatemala, Panama, El Salvador, Nicaragua, and the Honduran president-elect, they signed a declaration in which they agreed to hold a meeting of Central American presidents which is to be held at a date to be established by common agreement.

2. President Ortega heard the foreign ministers of the Contadora Group and the Support Group explain the statements contained in the Caraballeda message, signed by the respective foreign ministers. In the meeting held with the foreign ministers of the Contadora Group and the support group, President Ortega denounced the aggression that continues against Nicaragua and the fact that the U.S. Government is still bent on disregarding the Latin American peace efforts.

3. President Ortega ratified the position of the Nicaraguan Government contained in the 11 November 1985 declaration, which stated that no solution will be effective in Central America until U.S. leaders completely stop the direct, indirect, and covert aggression, or the aggression through other alternate ways, against the Nicaraguan people.

4. The president of the Republic said that the Caraballeda message is a new effort to create the right climate to eliminate the policies of force and permit a resumption of the negotiating process. He said that this message was strengthened by the Guatemalan declaration signed by the Central American foreign ministers thus showing, once more, the unanimous willingness of Latin America to find a peaceful solution for the Central American crisis and its total rejection of a policy of force.

5. Announcing his total support for the Caraballeda message, the Nicaraguan president said that he hoped that the simultaneous actions suggested in the document -- particularly the Nicaraguan-U.S. talks -- be carried out with the support of the international community in an effort to ease tensions and normalize bilateral relations. All of this will establish indispensable conditions to resume negotiations.

6. The Nicaraguan president reaffirmed the already known Nicaraguan position that as long as U.S. aggression continued, Nicaragua will exercise its right to find the necessary means to defend itself from the aggression.

7. Praising this new hopeful effort of the Contadora Group and the Support Group, which was endorsed by Latin America, Ortega said that he trusts that, with the support of the international community, the aggression against Nicaragua will end and that the peace wanted by the Central American peoples will be achieved.

Managua, 16 January 1986

25 Years Later, All Arms Against Aggression

Ministry of Information and Press of the Presidency of the Republic of Nicaragua

ARDE CLAIMS ATTACK ON SANDINIST HELICOPTERS

PA171847 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1809 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] San Jose, 17 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Rebel forces headed by Eden Pastora today claimed responsibility for an attack on two Soviet-made Sandinist helicopters in southern Nicaragua. Jose Davila, spokesman for the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), told ACAN-EFE that his organization carried out the attack, but he did not specify the place, the commander who led the operation, or the kind of weapon used.

According to Managua, two "Mi-8" helicopters were damaged in the attack that took place at noon yesterday. According to the Sandinist government, the helicopters were attacked during a patrol mission in response to fire from a place known as Tigra, Sarapiqui, near the Costa Rican border, where, according to Managua, armed groups are concentrating again.

The helicopters were damaged, not downed. They landed afterward. A Sandinist lieutenant and sub-lieutenant, who were aboard one of the helicopters, were injured, according to the official report.

Protest Made to Costa Rica

PA181627 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Text] The Nicaraguan Government yesterday made an urgent call to Costa Rica, asking it to impose a strict watch over its territory to prevent a repeat of regrettable situations such as those of 16 January. In the protest note signed by Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto Brockman, Nicaragua states that on 17 January at 1130, two Sandinist Air Force MI-8 helicopters flying over Sarapiqui and Boca de San Carlos in Nicaraguan territory were attacked with rifle fire from mercenary forces in Costa Rican territory.

As a result of this attack, both helicopters were damaged, Co-pilot Norman Pallade was seriously wounded, and Lieutenant Enrique Lopez Amador, the pilot, was slightly wounded in the head.

The Nicaraguan Government hereby states its most formal and strong protest in view of this unjustified attack and points out that this type of criminal activity is being carried out at a moment when the peace efforts of the Contadora and Support Groups have been given new life. The attacks are also in contradiction with the peace efforts made in Guatemala City during the presidential inauguration of President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo, an occasion that was used by the foreign ministers of the area to sign the so-called declaration of Guatemala in support of the Caraballeda declaration.

REPORTS OF ARMY RAIDS INTO HONDURAS REFUTED

PA210102 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Jan 86

[Text] The Foreign Affairs Ministry has categorically denied that members of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] entered Honduran territory and killed three Honduran Armed Forces soldiers. Compañera (Angela Zavala) of the Foreign Ministry's Public Relations Office reported that news dispatches have been received from various news agencies indicating that members of the EPS carried out kidnappings and raids into Honduras, more specifically in the western department of El Paraiso, bordering with Nicaragua. Once again, Nicaragua reiterates that it is not the habit of our soldiers to enter neighboring territory, and therefore categorically denies such reports, which only tend to create conflicts between the two governments.

STATE SECURITY CHIEF CERNA REMOVED FROM OFFICE

PA171939 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Lenin Cerna, minister chief of the Sandinist State Security, has been removed from office and will be sent to Bulgaria as the Sandinist regime's ambassador. The Sandinist regime decided to reward Cerna, guilty of thousands of murders and tortures in the regime's political jails, with a diplomatic appointment. All those who have opposed the Sandinist regime have, in one way or another, been victims of the State Security headed by Cerna and many have suffered the refined methods that he uses to get information. Deputy Interior Minister Commander Omar Cabezas will replace Lenin Cerna as chief of the Nicaraguan State Security. Commander Cabezas is currently in New York where he is participating in a writers meeting. Circles close to the FSLN say that Cerna's removal is due to the desire to somewhat clean-up, quote, unquote, the State Security's repressive image.

MININT SUSPENDS 'CLANDESTINE' PUBLICATION

PA180343 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0156 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Communique issued by the Interior Ministry dated 17 January -- read by announcer]

[Text] The Interior Ministry [MININT] hereby reports the following to the people:

1. For the past 6 months, LA PRENSA journalist Alejandro Cordonero, in complicity with Jose Ramirez Artola, a Nanica [Nicaraguan Shipping Company] employee, had been illegally publishing a news bulletin in the form of a fly sheet called PRISMA.
2. The contents of the fly sheet jeopardized the security of the nation, the country's economy, and the legal authorities, thus violating the law of public order and security and the communications media law. 3. The Communications Media Directorate has decided to suspend the publication of this clandestine flysheet. 4. The General Directorate of State Security has arrested the individuals involved in this crime based on the provisions of the State of Emergency Decree that is in force.

Issued in the city of Managua on 17 January 1986 by the Public Relations Office of the MININT.

MALMIERCA ARRIVES IN LESOTHO PRIOR TO COUP

FL181250 Havana Radio Progreso in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Text] Minister of Foreign Relations Isidoro Malmierca has arrived in Maseru, capital of Lesotho, on an official and friendly visit. He was received by Basotho Foreign Minister Vincent Makhele and other officials. Malmierca later met with Foreign Minister Makhele and the ministers of planning, health, and information and broadcasting of Lesotho.

Coup Reported

PA201856 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] Major General Justice Lekhanye, chief of Lesotho's paramilitary force, has overthrown the government of Lesotho Prime Minister Leabau Jonathan and will lead the nation at the head of a military council. Upon reporting this development, Radio Lesotho said that Moshoeshoe II will remain head of state and that the military coup seeks to restore peace and national reconciliation. It asked the people for support.

Twenty-four hours before his ouster the prime minister had said at a news conference that South Africa was plotting to overthrow his government by infiltrating agents into the paramilitary force. Jonathan admitted there had been a coup attempt the week before which took the lives of 4 of 35 rebels.

Shortly before the prime minister's ouster, South African Foreign Minister Roelof Botha said Leabua Jonathan was a destabilizing factor and that if his friends feared for his safety, Pretoria would not hesitate in taking the necessary measures.

Official Still in Lesotho

FL201821 Bridgetown CANA in English 1752 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] Havana, Jan 20, CANA REUTER -- Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca was on an official visit to Lesotho when an Army coup toppled the leftist government today and is apparently still in the country, Cuba's state-run new agency PRENSA LATINA said. A PRENSA LATINA dispatch, issued shortly before the dawn coup, said Malmierca was continuing his visit to the tiny African nation and had attended a government reception on Saturday night.

There was no mention of any scheduled departure and Cuban sources said he was almost certainly still in the country which is surrounded entirely by South Africa. Foreign Ministry officials were not available for comment. Cuba was a firm supporter of the toppled Premier Leabua Jonathan's anti-South Africa policy.

Ministry: Whereabouts Unknown

PA201921 Paris AFP in Spanish 1901 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] Havana, 20 Jan (AFP) -- As of noon today, the Cuban Foreign Ministry in Havana did not know if Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has ended his official visit to Lesotho, scene of a coup early this morning, or if he is still in Maseru, the capital. Sources consulted at the Foreign Ministry said that Malmierca's visit had been scheduled "to be brief." "For the time being we have nothing more to say," the sources added, abstaining from any further comment.

In Havana, the Cuban press this morning had published dispatches from Harare, capital of Zimbabwe, reporting on activities by the Cuban foreign minister in Maseru on Saturday, "the 2d day of his visit to this small country in the African southern cone." According to the dispatches, the foreign minister of the ousted government had hosted a reception for Malmierca on Saturday night. It is customary to end official visits with this protocol act.

Reported Still in Hotel

MB211126 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 21 Jan 86

[Text] The Cuban foreign minister, Mr Isidoro Malmierca, who was in Lesotho at the time of the coup, is still reported to be in the country. Our special representative in Maseru, Leslie Mashokwe, has more details on Mr Malmierca's exact whereabouts.

[Mashokwe] He is still here, I am staying just below him. He is on the fifth floor of the same hotel where I am, and since yesterday he has been grounded. He has not been moving. There have been security people around here, but he has been here all the time. He has not left the place yet. Right now, it is about twelvish, and I am definitely sure that his car, his official car, is still outside. The Cuban flag is still hanging, and the foreign minister of Cuba is definitely still in the hotel.

Visited by USSR Envoy

PA211227 Paris AFP in Spanish 1123 GMT 21 Jan 86

[Excerpt] Maseru, 21 Jan (AFP) -- Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, who arrived here shortly before the coup d'etat that overthrew Prime Minister Leabua Jonathan, is still in the capital of Lesotho today and was visited in his hotel by Soviet Ambassador Vladimir Garushkin.

CUBAN KILLED IN LESOTHO; OTHERS UNDER GUARD

MB210930 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0915 GMT 21 Jan 86

[Text] Our representative in Maseru reports that a Cuban was shot dead by a youth at the weekend when seven Cubans visited a Lesotho youth training camp in the city. The other six Cubans are under guard in their hotel rooms in Maseru. A liaison team of the new military government declined to comment on the matter.

L.A. PARLIAMENT DISCUSSES FOREIGN DEBT

PA200428 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] The Latin American Parliament's expanded board of directors has ended its sessions in Lima, after issuing a final declaration, which among other things rejects all forms of intervention in Latin America. The Lima declaration reiterates the principles established by the Latin American Parliament to the effect that the foreign debt cannot be paid under the conditions that the debtors are being asked to pay.

The Lima declaration calls for a special meeting of the Latin American Parliament on behalf of peace and democracy in Central America, to be held in Guatemala City from 3 to 5 April.

Regarding the results of the Latin American Parliament's special assembly which recently ended in Lima, Senator Luis Leon Lara of Argentina, president of the Latin American Parliament, said that the members of the Parliament are fully convinced that the foreign debt cannot be paid in the way the creditor nations want it to be paid and that the Baker Plan drafted by Washington is only an aspirin which does not solve the problem.

Parliament Favors Summit

PA210052 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Jan 86

[Text] The Board of Directors of the Latin American Parliament has agreed in Lima to support the meeting of Latin American presidents scheduled to take place this year in Panama. The topics to be discussed at the meeting are the foreign debt, the limitation of funds spent on arms, the struggle against drug trafficking, and other issues of regional interest.

The Board of Directors of the 19-country Latin American Parliament met on 16 January in the Peruvian capital.

Flavio Bravo Reviews Meeting

FL202110 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] After having participated in the meeting of the expanded Board of Directors of the Latin American Parliament, Comrade Flavio Bravo, member of the party Central Committee and president of the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] has returned to Cuba. The expanded Board of Directors of the Latin American Parliament, which has been holding working meetings in Lima, Peru, approved a final statement manifesting the rejection of all imperialist intervention in Central America and calls on legislators of the region to attend an extraordinary meeting in Guatemala, which will study the problems of the area.

[Begin Bravo recording] That meeting will have the objective of struggling to block intervention in Central America, striving to find a political, peaceful, just, negotiated solution based on the self-determination of the peoples and respect for the sovereignty of the peoples. The meeting will be very important for the Central American peoples in general and for the Nicaraguan people in particular who, as you know, are the victims of the dirty aggression the Reagan government is openly organizing.

Something else very important happened: The agreements that the U.S. Congress is making in favor of the counterrevolution in Nicaragua were denounced, and the Presidency of the Latin American Parliament was authorized to denounce this publicly and to ask that it cease because it worsens the tensions in Central America. [end recording]

FLAVIO BRAVO MEETS WITH PERU'S PRESIDENT GARCIA

FL171232 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] National Assembly of the People's Government President Flavio Bravo has had a special meeting in Lima with Peruvian President Alan Garcia, with whom he discussed topics of common interest. The Cuban legislator is in Lima heading a delegation participating in the third meeting of the Latin American Parliament Board of Directors which began on 16 January.

RODRIGUEZ RECEIVES CARABALLEDA MESSAGE

FL180138 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers of Cuba, has received on behalf of the government the Caraballeda message for peace, security, and democracy for Central America, signed by the eight foreign ministers of the Contadora and Support Groups on 12 January.

This morning the Cuban vice president met with Argentine Ambassador Luis Raul Claraso de la Vega; Mexican Ambassador Enrique Olivares Santana; and Panamanian Ambassador Juan Angel Gomez Vargas; Peruvian charge d'affaires Jose Manuel Pacheco; and Venezuelan charge Noel Garcia Gomez. The diplomats, representing their respective governments, officially handed Carlos Rafael Rodriguez the Caraballeda message. It was presented by the Venezuelan charge d'affaires because his country hosted the Contadora and Support Groups foreign ministers meeting.

The Cuban vice president told the representatives of the five Latin American countries that the message will be given immediately to the president of the council of state and the government, Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, for his consideration.

SERGIO DEL VALLE CONCLUDES VISIT TO GUYANA

PA210047 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Jan 86

[Text] Sergio del Valle, a member of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party, has ended a working visit to Guyana after meeting with Cuban internationalist doctors in that country in an effort to improve collaboration in that field. There are 33 Cubans working in Guyana, including clinicians, specialists, stomatologists, and health technicians, some of whom also instruct Guyanese students.

JAPANESE PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION ARRIVES

FL201426 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] A parliamentary delegation from the Japanese Diet, headed by Liberal Democratic Party deputy (Yoshio Sakarushi), has arrived in Cuba at the invitation of the National Assembly of the People's Government. The visitors will tour Havana's Hermanos Ameijeiras hospital, the Havana City Museum, and Old Havana historic area, and industrial development areas of Cienfuegos province.

SOVIET SHIPS EN ROUTE WITH HURRICANE RELIEF

FL181236 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Jan 86

[Text] Two merchant ships sailed from the port of Leningrad this week with cargoes forming part of the aid granted by the USSR to Cuba to repair damages caused by Hurricane Kate. One of these ships is the (Kazho Rags), which is transporting nearly 1,500 tons of galvanized steel plate and more than 500 tons of fibro-cement. The other ship is the (Komsomol Stonil), whose holds contain about 1,700 tons of zinc sheets.

AREA LEADERS ARRIVE IN KINGSTON FOR CDU MEETING

FL161406 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] The preparative meeting of the Caribbean Democratic Union, CDU, an organization of moderate and conservative Caribbean political parties, opens at the Windom New Kingston Hotel this morning. The brainchild of Prime Minister and Jamaica Labor Party [JLP] leader Edward Seaga, the CDU is being seen as a vehicle for parties to weigh their political views, evaluate development, and, to the extent sovereignty permits, to have common positions.

Caribbean leaders who will participate include Prime Ministers Eugenia Charles of Dominica, Herbert Blaize of Grenada, and Dr Kennedy Simmonds of St Christopher-Nevis, and Chief Minister John Osborne of Montserrat, all of whom arrived yesterday afternoon. Also arriving yesterday afternoon were Deputy Prime Minister George Mallet of St Lucia and Minister of Information and Culture of St Vincent John Horne.

Early arrivals included Prime Minister John Swan of Bermuda and specially invited guest Mr Scott Hamilton, secretary general of the International Democratic Union [IDU]. Also expected is chairman of the United States National Republican Committee Frank Fahrenkopf.

The JLP became a member of the IDU last year, and the CDU will be an affiliate of this organization. The IDU is the international grouping of democratic parties, as opposed to Socialist International, which groups left-wing socialist parties internationally. The conference opens at 10 a.m. and is being held over 2 days.

Seaga Addresses Forum

FL171720 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Prime Minister Edward Seaga says the Caribbean Democrats Union, CDU, is an attempt to revise history, as it is a revival of a political alliance which was tried 25 years ago. Mr Seaga, who was speaking at the preparatory meeting of the Windom New Kingston Hotel yesterday, told delegates of 10 regional countries and allied organizations that they may coordinate to strengthen each other. He noted that the like-minded moderate parties would be the umbilical cord which would nourish and strengthen their party structures with enriched understandings. The JLP [Jamaica Labor Party] leader said: From this base, it was intended to strengthen relations with parties of like mind from the north as well as with neighbors to the south. [5-second break in transmission] continues today.

Blaize Seeks Party Cooperation

FL171800 Bridgetown CANA in English 2222 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Jan 16, CANA -- Grenada's prime minister, Herbert Blaize, today underscored the need for moderate Caribbean political parties to cooperate to ensure the survival of democracy as the CDU launched its first meeting here. Blaize, a veteran politican, was one of three Caribbean prime ministers who addressed the meeting -- the others being Eugenia Charles of Dominica and Jamaica's Edward Seaga. [Words indistinct] democracies to work together for survival and development.

He told the gathering of political leaders from the Caribbean and the Americas' that unity was necessary so that, wherever and whenever there was a threat to parliamentary democracy, the parties could come together to head it off.

Miss Charles said the youth arm of her Dominica Freedom Party [DFP] wanted the political leaders to ensure that the democratic way of life becomes entrenched in this region. She said the establishment of the CDU -- Seaga's brainchild -- was long overdue. We [word indistinct] the organization to allow like-thinking parties in the region to meet, whether in government or opposition, she asserted.

The CDU is grouping moderate Caribbean political parties. Plans for its formation emerged against the backdrop of deepening concern in the Caribbean and Washington about the growth of leftist parties, but politicians reject suggestions the CDU was formed to extend right-wing influence in the English-speaking Caribbean. The meeting here has attracted representatives of 10 countries in the region.

Delegation leaders included: Hubert Erlington, attorney general, United Democratic Party of Belize; John Osborne, chief minister and leader of the People's Liberation Movement of Montserrat; and Dr Kennedy Simmonds, prime minister and leader of the People's Action Movement of St Kitts and Nevis. Others were: George Mallet, deputy prime minister as well as deputy leader of the United Workers Party of St Lucia; and John Horne, minister of culture and information, New Democratic Party of St Vincent and the Grenadines.

Among those attending as observers were: John Swan, premier of Bermuda; Ms Margarita Palacio, of Venezuela's Christian Democratic Party; Frank Fahrenkopf, chairman of the Republican National Committee, USA; and Scott Hamilton, general secretary of the International Democrat Union (IDU), to which the CDU hopes to become affiliated.

Seaga said the political parties present represent some two-thirds of the potential membership of Caribbean parties of this like-minded group. He said the purpose of the meeting was to strengthen international bonds, enhancing fraternal relationships, and mutually reinforcing the drive to political goals.

Seaga said he had first discussed the formation of the union with Caribbean colleagues at the Caribbean Community and Common Market (Caricom) meeting in July, and the response was very positive. He admitted the concept grew out of the formation and growth of similar unions in Europe and the IDU.

Osborne Seeks Increased U.S. Aid

FL172107 Bridgetown CANA in English 1800 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Kingston, Jan 17, CANA -- Chief Minister of Montserrat John Osborne last night called for an increase in United States aid to the Caribbean. He was speaking at a meeting here of centre-right regional political leaders that will end today with the launching of the CDU.

In a speech that won him a standing ovation, Osborne said the small democracies of the Caribbean were friends of the United States and increased American aid would help secure democracy in the region. The Caribbean should be put on the top of the list when the aid budget was being made up, he said.

Delegations at the meeting include representatives of Osborne's Peoples Liberation Movement (PLM), the ruling parties of St Kitts and Nevis, Belize, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, and Jamaica. The conference ends this evening by which time the charter and leadership of the CDU will be approved. The CDU hopes to become affiliated to the International Democratic Union (IDU), grouping the conservative parties.

Osborne said democracy, as he saw it, meant freedom of speech, the right to worship, and other freedoms. He expressed a dislike for socialist ideology because he felt it was opposed to freedom. He declared he would not sit back and allow socialists to subvert his government. If anybody believes I am going to sit back...and allow socialists, knowing what they are going to do to me, then I deserve what they do to me. I don't see that as democracy...we have every right to design our own democracy to suit the present situation and you have to do it now when you are in power, he said.

Referring to political crises in Grenada and Dominica over the last few years, he said: I feel when there is any sign of socialist uprising, it should be fought militantly with a democratic upswing. Osborne classified those of the left as socialists, radical socialists and communists and all three groups were communists whom he did not like, he said.

Observers at the conference included Premier John Swan of Bermuda, Frank Fahrenkopt, chairman of the Republican National Committee of the United States, and Margarita Palacio of Venezuela's Christian Democratic Party.

Seaga Elected Chairman

FL180333 Bridgetown CANA in English 2141 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Kingston, Jan 17, CANA -- Jamaica's prime minister and leader of the ruling JLP, Edward Seaga has been elected chairman of the new CDU, formally established today following the signing of a charter by leaders or representatives of eight ruling moderate parties in the Caribbean. Deputy chairmen are Kennedy Simmonds of St Christopher-Nevis, Herbert Blaize of Grenada and Manuel Esquivel of Belize. Treasurer is Eugenia Charles of Dominica. These leaders met here yesterday and today, except for Esquivel, whose United Democrat Party was represented by attorney general of Belize, Hubert Erlington.

The full list of eight countries whose ruling parties are members of the Union are Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, St Christopher-Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines and Montserrat. Prime Minister Seaga told a press luncheon which closed the meeting that there were four or five other parties in the region which could qualify for membership. He said he would not want to name the parties as it was their responsibility to so identify themselves. Seaga said at least one of the parties had shown interest in the union. Asked specifically about the ruling party in Bermuda -- which had observer status at the meeting and was represented by Premier John Swan -- Seaga said the interest of that party had been shown by the fact that the party had come as observer but it had to decide whether it wanted membership.

Seaga said: In some cases we have two parties in the same country that could qualify and we have to sort out in our own minds which should qualify. It is felt here that the union would like to embrace the ruling parties in Barbados, Antigua and Trinidad and Tobago.

Seaga noted that the CDU was the third regional grouping of parties to fall under the umbrella of the International Democrat Union (IDU) formed in 1983 -- the others being the European Democrat Union and the Pacific Union (EDU-PU). The CDU would serve as a vehicle to foster stronger relationship between like-minded parties of the Caribbean to strengthen party structure, foster the interchange of ideas and promote the basis for ideological structure of the CDU.

The CDU is to meet next on February 19, in what Seaga called the party leaders conference. At that time, the secretary general of the CDU will be elected, completing the executive body. Seaga said the charter of the union provides for the meeting of the executive committee at least twice every year. That committee consists of Seaga as chairman, the three deputy leaders, the treasurer and the general secretary. There is to be a meeting of the party leaders every other year.

Funding of the union will come from member parties, the IDU and other organizations which promote and sponsor democratic systems, Seaga said. The majority of leaders leave Kingston for home this evening.

BARBADOS

GOVERNMENT BLOCKS IMPORTS FROM TRINIDAD-TOBAGO

FL202350 Bridgetown CANA in English 2247 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] Bridgetown, Jan 20, CANA -- Barbados is blocking certain imports from Trinidad and Tobago because of restrictions manufacturers here face in exporting to the twin-island state, Trade and Industry Minister Louis Tull said today. The goods whose entry is restricted here include meat products, detergents, and biscuits, Tull said during a news conference.

The curbs followed a warning from Prime Minister Bernard St. John last year that action would be taken against Trinidadian products unless the oil-rich state lifted restrictions on Barbadian goods. We have in fact held back the grant of licences for a number of goods for which there were licences for Trinidad and Tobago, Tull said. [sentence as received]

It was not something Barbados liked doing, he admitted, but we have to consider our own position. We have products such as detergents, where we were allowing Trinidad and Tobago's detergents to come into Barbados freely, and we were having extreme difficulty in getting our detergents into Trinidad and Tobago. So we've put the lid on that for the time being....

Tull said Barbados had also had problems with exporting meat products to Trinidad and tobago, adding: We've taken some action to protect our meat producers. He told reporters: I believe that we've taken a position in respect of sweet biscuits, pet foods, and one or two other areas....

We're not playing games. Barbados has a long tradition of playing by the rules and we have done our best to live up to the provisions of all the agreements and accords which we have entered. But there comes a time when we have to look after our own interests in a more definite way. Therefore, although we haven't taken action that is devastating by any means, we are making a point that all the countries in the Caribbean Community that have signed an agreement should honour it. Tull was referring to an agreement community states made to lift barriers to intra-regional trade and impose tariffs on goods from third countries which compete with similar Caribbean products.

During a mid-December budget [as received], Trinidad and Tobago's prime minister, George Chambers, announced the republic was honouring the agreement. The country has imposed the tariff measures but it is not yet clear whether the barriers have been relaxed. Tull said it was too early to pick up any trend in trade caused by the budget, that included a 33 percent devaluation of the TT dollar against the U.S. currency. But he conceded that in the last quarter of 1985, Barbadian manufacturers had been finding it easier to export to Trinidad and Tobago.

We've been having difficulty for a long time in terms of getting licences granted and, on a second stage, of getting the EC-O (applications seeking foreign exchange for imports) approvals, Tull told reporters. Three or four months ago, there was a significant improvement. We saw that for the first time for over a year we were getting a number of applications for licences approved pretty early.

HAITI

POLICE STOP CAPITAL, GONAIVES DEMONSTRATIONS

PA191532 Paris AFP in Spanish 0327 GMT 19 Jan 86

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 18 Jan (AFP) -- About 1,500 people, most of them women and children, demonstrated peacefully in Haiti's capital today. The demonstrators, organized after a religious gathering, sang and demanded "a new Haiti." They were stopped by the police without incident when approaching the National Palace area.

According to reports to AFP over the telephone, another antigovernment demonstration occurred this morning in Gonaives, Haiti's fourth most important city, 152 km northwest of the capital, but it was quickly broken up by the police.

REGIME REQUESTS OAS MISSION POSTPONE VISIT

PA202004 Paris AFP in Spanish 1818 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 20 Jan (AFT) -- The Haitian Government has asked the OAS to postpone the Human Rights Commission's visit to Haiti, well-informed sources announced here today. The Haitian authorities had invited the Human Rights Commission to visit Haiti from 26 January through 1 February. The authorities explained that the official reason for postponing this visit indefinitely is the fact that a new minister of justice, interior, and defense took over on 31 December.

The OAS commission was to be led by former Bolivian President Luis Adolfo Siles Salinas. This visit is being cancelled at a time when the Haitian Government is facing its worst political crisis since President Jean-Claude Duvalier rose to power in April 1971. Schools and universities have been closed since 8 January under government orders. Various sources have reported that several youths have been arrested throughout the country and that a shoemaker arrested by the police has died in prison.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION TALKS WITH USSR BEGIN

FL171550 Bridgetown CANA in English 1515 GMT 17 Jan 86

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Jan 17, CANA -- Guyana and the Soviet Union have begun talks here aimed at increasing bilateral trade and economic ties, a senior Russian Government official said today.

The leader of the six-member Soviet delegation Zinoviev Nikolai Vasilyvich said his team was here to make trade relations more stable. The two sides, whose discussions started yesterday, are looking specifically at the Bauxite and gold industries and will also discuss wide-ranging issues which should lead to a possible expansion of trade and economic co-operation, the sources said.

The governments of the two countries signed eight agreements and protocols between 1973 and 1978, according to Minister of Trade Winston Murray, demonstrating serious intentions on both sides for trade and economic co-operation.

The facts, covering the mining of bauxite and alumina, along with timber, machinery and equipment, paved the way for the further strengthening of trade and economic ties between Guyana and USSR, Murray said. Also being discussed is the possibility of Moscow supplying of equipment for use in Guyana's anti-malaria programme, post-graduate training for Guyanese in institutions in the Soviet Union, and the utilisation of Soviet teaching staff at the recently established medical faculty at the University of Guyana (UG).

The Soviet delegation expects to be in Guyana one week.

PPP LEADER JAGAN MEETS WITH PRIME MINISTER

FL202324 Bridgetown CANA in English 2124 GMT 20 Jan 86

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Jan 20, CANA -- Leader of the Marxist People's Progressive Party (PPP), Dr Cheddi Jagan, has told Prime Minister Hamilton Green that Parliament needed a speaker who is agreeable to the opposition, PPP sources said. The weekend meeting took place at the request of Green at his office in Parliament buildings.

The PPP is entering a new session of Parliament in spite of its rejection of the results of last month's general elections. The PPP was allocated eight seats and the PNC 42 of the 53 elected seats.

During the meeting, the PPP was offered the position of deputy speaker of the National Assembly and Jagan said he would consult his party to decide on the matter, the sources said. Jagan said his party had difficulty with the last speaker, Sase Narine. The two political leaders also discussed the mode of dress for parliament.

The MIRROR newspaper, the mouthpiece of the PPP, said Jagan agreed that he would like to see decorum in the house raised, but he stressed there are more pressing matters to be discussed which included the crucial running of the National Assembly.

Jagan expressed dissatisfaction on certain parliamentary procedures, the paper said. The MIRROR said Green gave Jagan assurance that the matters discussed would be looked into.